

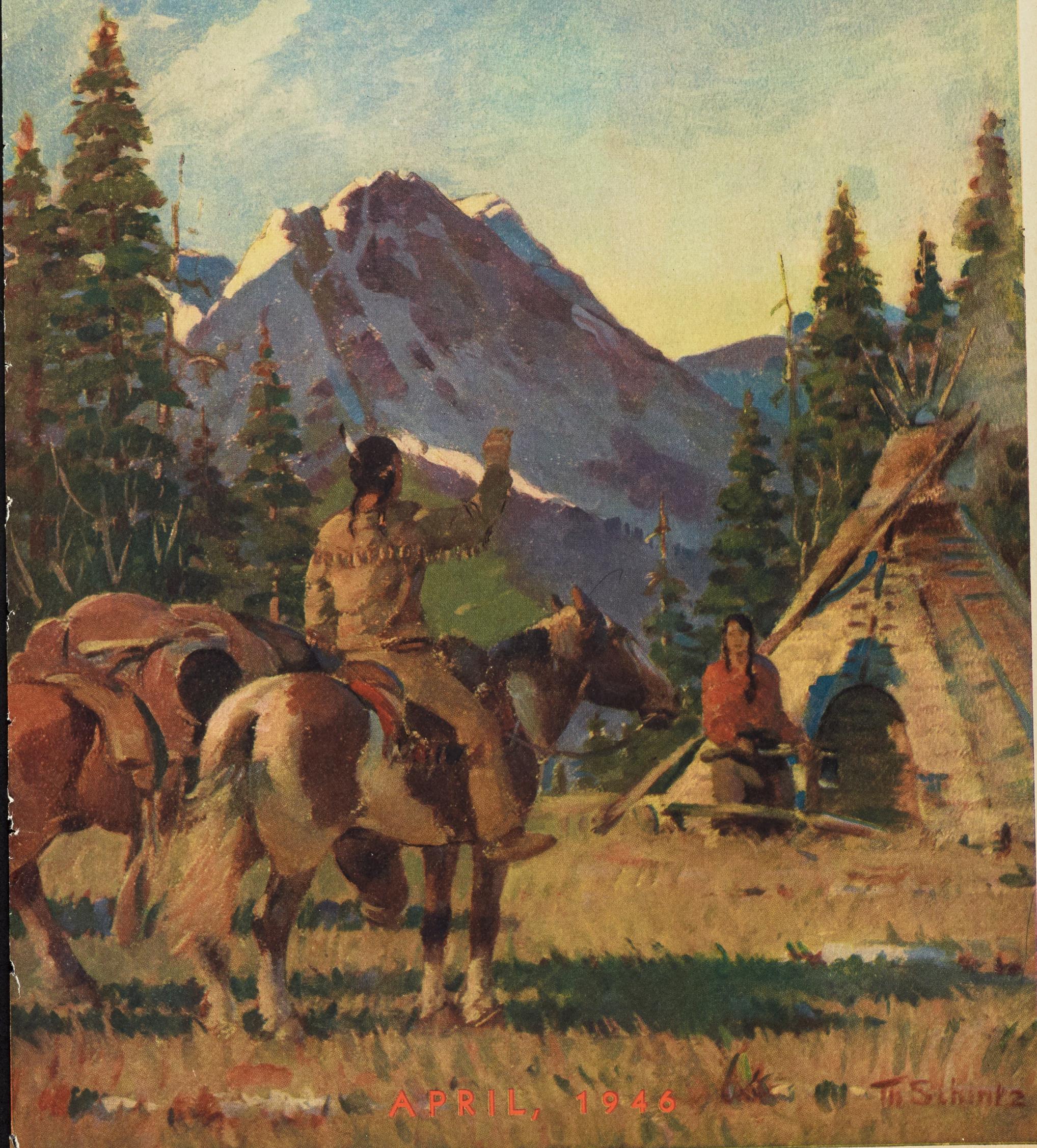
APR 16 '46

Animal Sciences
G-35

THE Country GUIDE

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EDMONTON 47



APRIL, 1946

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TRADE MARK ON ALL GARMENTS
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THE GREAT WESTERN GARMENT CO., LTD., EDMONTON

Moving Dirt

by

T. L. SHEPHERD
West Plains, Sask.

WE dug our first irrigation ditch in the summer of 1918, with a walking plow and a slip scraper. We can now irrigate 200 acres of hay and grain land. In this construction work, we have employed everything from the common hoe and spade, to a sixty Cat and elevating grader. During these 27 years, we have moved a lot of dirt, most of it the hard way.

We live within ten miles of the P.F.R.A. Cypress Lake irrigation project, and have watched with considerable interest, the construction and successful operation of that plan. We have seen them dig a ditch six miles long, big enough to take all of Battle Creek, when Battle Creek was flowing 50 yards wide and deep enough to swim a saddle horse. They built a dam across the west end of Cypress Lake like a high railway grade. Rock faced, it is 22 feet high and a quarter of a mile long. We saw them dig an outlet ditch that in one place reached a depth of 34 feet, and was nearly 150 feet wide at the top.

In this work, they used everything from a good team of horses on a road drag, to a 12-yard LaTourneau pulled by a new 90-horsepower Cat, and sometimes pushed by a sixty as well. They used a dragline and dug a ditch across a swamp that "would bog a snipe." They used elevating graders and dump wagons and dump trucks. Almost without exception, the bigger and more expensive the machine, the cheaper and more efficiently it handled the dirt.

WHAT are the problems facing the farmer and small rancher when it comes to moving dirt? The question is, to buy, borrow or beg a machine suitable for the size of the job and the power at hand. Very few farms have crawler type tractors, but most have either steel wheel or rubber tired tractors of a fair size. In digging basements, irrigation ditches, or in building dams and dug-outs, we have found a tool known as a "Soil Mover" commonly called a "Tumblebug" very useful. Sometimes they can be hired from a municipality for a dollar a day, or they are not too expensive for the average farmer to buy. Costing around \$200, according to size, they have been known to earn their cost in one summer.

For power, it is generally considered that the crawler type tractor is the very best for pulling on loose dirt. But we have used an old style 22-36 purchased new away back in 1928. Last spring, we fitted this old engine with secondhand, well worn rubber tires, and a new manifold. In most types of work, I feel sure that I could move more dirt with this tractor and a soil mover myself, in a day, than we used to move with two fresnos, eight horses and three men. I know of one man who built dams all last summer for the P.F.R.A. pastures, and used only an old steel wheeled tractor and one of these soil movers. Claimed he made good money at the job too.

The most important thing is to get the size of machine most suitable for the power you have to pull it. For our rubber tired 22-36, we find the size 42 inches wide by 36 high, just right. If you are in doubt as to the size your tractor can handle, the Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current stands ready and willing to advise you. The next important thing, is to have just plenty of loose dirt to handle. Quite true, under the best conditions, these machines will dig without plowing, but by actual tests we can prove that it is far the best and cheapest to plow, and plow deep. I like a three-bottom 14-inch plow, for that is just the width of the cut of the machine. Under tough going, a road plow is best. In operation, it works something like this. Drive onto the plowed ground and when your tractor hind wheels reach the spot that you want to start loading, pull the trip rope. This lets the machine all three quarters of a turn, and lets the blade dig in. When you have nearly loaded, pull the other rope, and that



pushes back on the trip rod and tilts the blade slightly up instead of down. In this position, you can travel right along. When you reach the spot that you want to dump the load, you pull the trip rope again, and the machine rolls a quarter turn to dump the dirt.

These machines can be set to dig fast or slow, and to dump the dirt in a smooth layer about six inches deep for building a road, or to dump it in a heap in building a ditch bank. On the top layer of a dike or ditch bank, I like to bring the tractor to nearly a stop, then let the machine trip and roll a complete turn and a quarter. This will often leave a pile of dirt more than two feet deep in just the one trip.

I have found that one man can do almost everything with a soil mover and tractor, that two men and four horses used to do with a fresno. Yes, and a great deal more in some cases. One important thing is that this machine can be backed like any two-wheeled trailer. In one case, we cleaned out an irrigation ditch below a spring, where there was a foot of water and mud, but solid ground underneath. I just kept backing the machine into the mud, and hauling it out. Soon we were down to hard ground, and could drive the tractor right through. In working around headgates and culverts, it is very handy to be able to back in. If the going is tough, and you don't get a full load the first time, you just back up a complete turn, and let her dig in again.

There are several points to remember in the operation of these machines. No hard and fast rules can be laid down, as working conditions vary so much. Try to arrange to have plenty of loose dirt, and if possible get your tractor wheels on good footing when you are loading. Avoid loading the machine and having the tractor climb at the same time. It is often best in ditch and road work to make your ditch and bank 10 to 15 feet apart. In road work, we usually dig from one ditch, dump on the grade, dig in the other ditch and dump again, two loads to one complete turn. In digging a basement or building a dam, if the haul is long it sometimes pays to make the empty trip in high gear. But for most work, we use low gear and try to keep going steady.

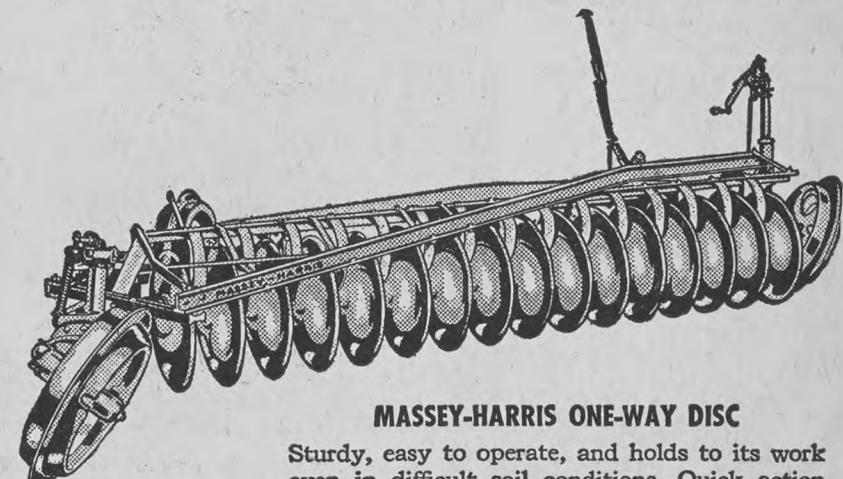
IF the load gets too heavy, and the wheels start to spin, just release your clutch. Specially with a rubber tired tractor, it will usually roll back a few inches, letting a little loose dirt fall below the blade. When you pull ahead again, this loose dirt will often raise the machine enough to make all the difference. But try to avoid getting stopped, for slow and steady wins the race in this type of work.

Yes, fellows, I've moved a lot of dirt so far, and it looks as if I have a lot more to move. In fact, with irrigation and road work and general improvements around the place, it looks as if I'll keep on the job until I turn it over to six other good men to carry me out and put dirt over me. If the miles I've travelled behind a fresno were added together, I guess they'd reach from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes. And if the number of feet I've been thrown into the air by said fresno handle were added together, I guess it would be away above the clouds. But those days are over now. For the soil mover is the one dirt moving tool that we've found that is light enough for a farm tractor to pull, and yet cheap enough for a farmer or a small rancher to buy.



Today, with high labor costs and high living costs, the farmer just has to cut down operating costs if he is going to make money. Thrifty farmers everywhere are proving they can save money, save time and speed up production with MASSEY-HARRIS equipment. Because of improved design and increased capacity the new MASSEY-HARRIS implements get farm work done easier, quicker and at lower cost.

MASSEY-HARRIS tillage implements are built from long experience and first hand knowledge of what Canadian farmers want. They are definitely designed for Canadian conditions—to do more work in less time than ever before. See your MASSEY-HARRIS dealer now about the availability of MASSEY-HARRIS equipment in 1946.



MASSEY-HARRIS ONE-WAY DISC

Sturdy, easy to operate, and holds to its work even in difficult soil conditions. Quick action power lift. Rear wheel correctly placed to offset end-thrust of the discs.

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*Are you getting only half the Service-life
out of your Plow Points and wasting fuel, too?*



**Surveys show that many farmers hitch
improperly—Result:—PLOW POINTS
WEAR OUT RAPIDLY AND
FUEL IS WASTED**

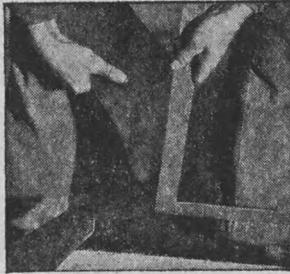
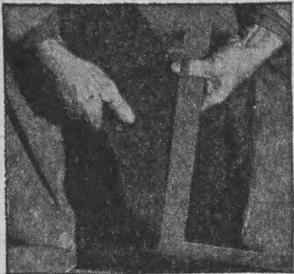
Field surveys by Agricultural Engineers show that three out of four farmers do not hitch their plows correctly.

The most common error is to hitch too high, causing the plow points to wear out 50% sooner than they should, according to the surveys.

Field tests show also that more fuel can be wasted by an improperly hitched plow than a badly adjusted carburetor.

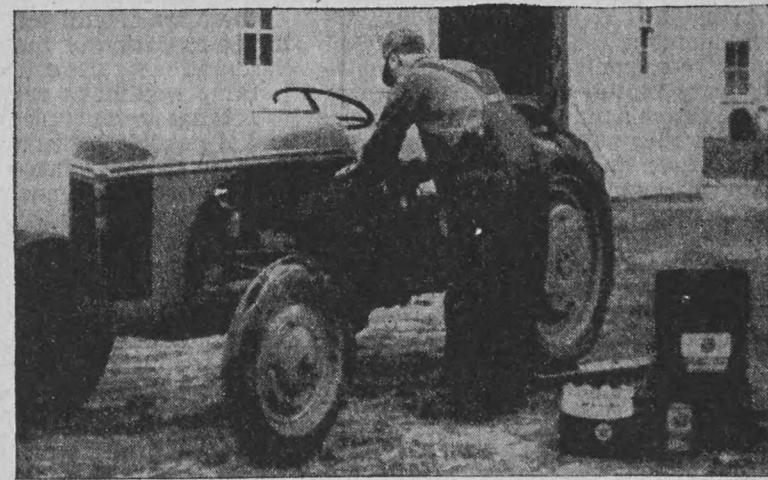
Correct principles of hitching are outlined in "Harvest Gold" McColl-Frontenac's Farm Machinery Manual, which you can secure through McColl-Frontenac representative or by writing the nearest McColl-Frontenac office.

Correct lubrication and the use of the best fuels are equally important factors in the economical operation of farm machinery. Here again, McColl-Frontenac can help you with fuels that give the maximum power, with lubricants that will save trouble and repair expense.

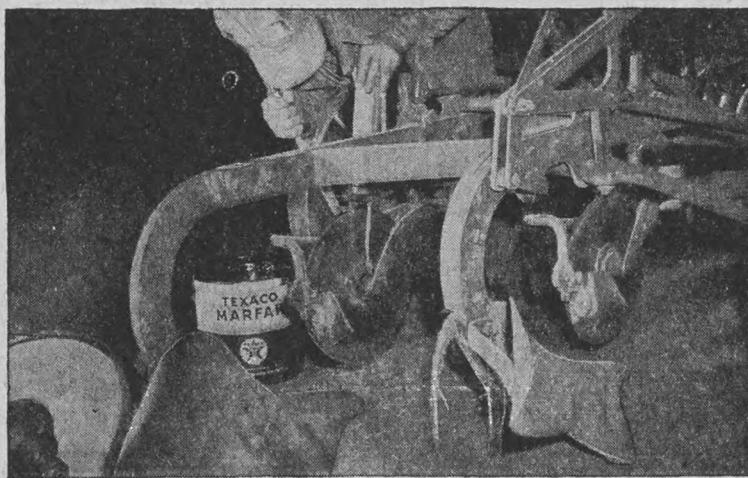


THE "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" STORY OF PLOW POINT WEAR

Illustrated above (No. 1) is a new plow share. Note the sharp end which points slightly inward, insuring landside suction and a full width of furrow. The point has gone from the worn share (No. 2) and it will not operate efficiently. The end of the new share (No. 3) points downward insuring bottom suction and penetration. The old share (No. 4) has worn straight and will not work well.



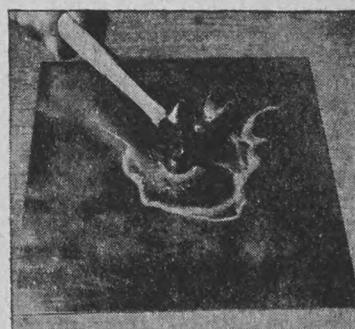
A FUEL SAVER SUGGESTION. A coating of Marathon Rust-proof Compound on mold boards prevents rust which causes poor scouring, heavy draft and waste in fuel.



When you give vital bearings a shot of **TEXACO MARFAK LUBRICANT**, you protect them with a lubricant that will stick to the job under all weather conditions. It protects bearings longer because it clings to them; and Marfak has the extraordinary ability to form a fluid film inside the bearing, while retaining its original consistency at the outer edges. By sealing itself in, it seals out dirt and moisture.



TEST MARFAK THIS WAY. You'll see, Marfak cushions the blow, sticks to the job, doesn't spatter.



Ordinary cup grease spatters in all directions, the hammer drives right through it to the metal. Try an equal amount to test both.

MF 6-1

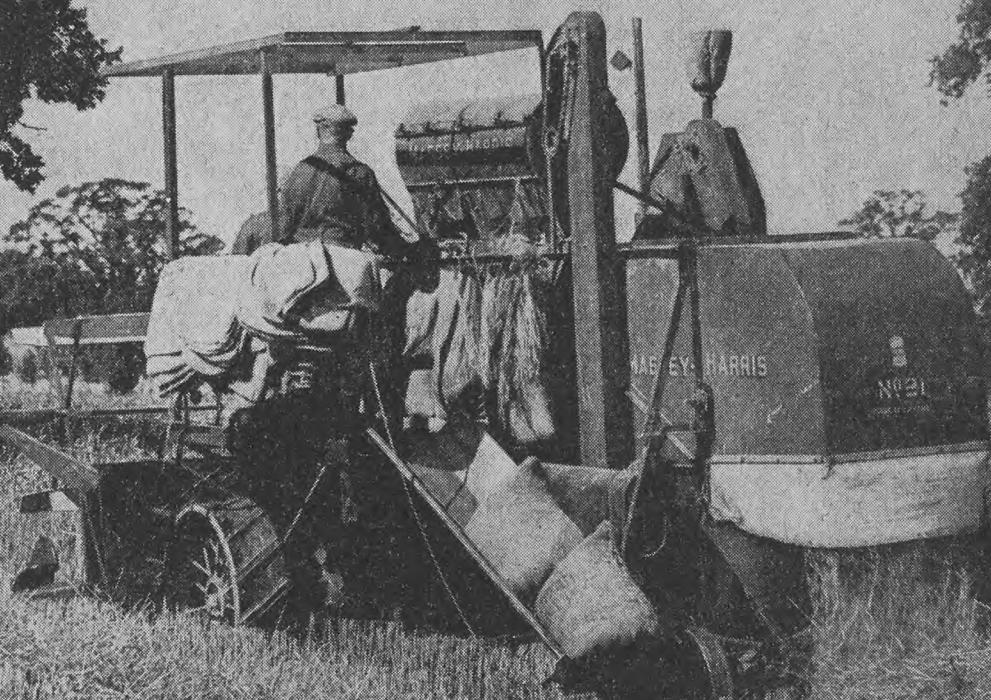
McCOLL-FRONTENAC PRODUCTS

FOR THE FARM

TUNE IN THE TEXACO STAR THEATRE, STARRING JAMES MELTON SUNDAY NIGHTS, FULL DOMINION NETWORK

Britain Beleaguered

By Col. P. M. ABEL



A Combine working on the Windsor Farm of His Majesty the King. When the combine was delivered in 1943 steel helmets for the operators were included.

Twice within a lifetime England, whose farms normally produce only enough to feed her people two days in the week, has found herself pitchforked into a war unprepared. In the interwar years the United Kingdom required annually something like sixteen million tons of human food and eleven million tons of animal food to make up the difference, all of it brought into the country by ships. Both the Kaiser and the Nazis knew Britain's most vulnerable spot and their submarines came perilously close to starving the island Kingdom. The margin was so close that it is inconceivable how the people of Britain could have weathered the storm but for the magnificent part played by her farmfolk.

Before considering the form which this effort took let us look at their assets in land at the commencement of each war.

ACREAGE: ENGLAND AND WALES

	1914	1939
Arable Land	10,998,254	8,934,598
Permanent Grass	16,115,750	15,708,663
Rough Grazing	3,781,565	5,607,912
Total	30,895,569	30,251,173

Incidentally the total shows the steady loss of farm land, and usually the best farm land, to airfield construction and industrial development. The changes within the classification reflect bad times; arable converted to grass for lack of labor and because of diminishing profits; grass converted to rough grazing by inattention to drainage and encroachment of shrubs and trees, again caused by low prices and vanishing profits.

In the last war Sir Thomas Middleton estimated that it would require a fleet of 40 vessels, each of 5,000 tons, to transport to Britain the product of a million acres of British grassland. On the other hand a million acres of British plow land would produce a volume of food that would keep a fleet of 200 ships busy. The obvious course for a Britain beleaguered is to plow up her permanent grassland.

If anyone suggested such a course before 1914 it would have been considered mad. Large acreages of permanent grass have been traditional in British farming ever since the repeal of the Corn Laws a

century ago. It is part of most tenancy agreements that no permanent grass be plowed unless some arrangement is made for reseeding. Indeed most tenants would be just as reluctant as landlords to break with custom in this respect. However, under threat of starvation during each of the world wars six million acres of permanent grassland was brought under the plow.

In some respects it was an easier feat in 1914 than in 1939. Arable land requires vastly more labor. Between the two wars England's farm laborers were reduced by 25 per cent in number and in 1939 one out of every six was a woman. More serious still was the drift of the young men from the land. There was a loss of 44 per cent of men under 21. As with coal mining the farm labor force was dwindling because alternative occupations were more attractive. The superb performance of British agriculture over the last six years has been the work of women and old men travailing long hours beyond their strength.

England's farm horse power also steeply declined in the interwar years. There were 791,000 drafters in England and Wales at the beginning of the first world war and only 548,000 in 1939. In 1918 the British Minister of Agriculture could contemplate with satisfaction the loan of 60,000 army horses to take off the harvest. In 1945 all the army horses in England could have been put into one set of corrals.

The loss in animal power was, of course, offset by the increase in tractors. Even at the end of the first world war there were only 2,700 tractors in the country. Before Munich, England and Wales could count over 46,000.

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Her farmers, no less than the men of the Merchant Navy, helped defeat the U-boats



First crop after reclamation.



Milking time on a modern dairy farm.

And So Came Spring

With its message to the heart of a woman
who had courage to wait

By EFFIE BUTLER



THE big farm kitchen was warm with the crackling of the fire and the smell of breakfast. With the ease of much practice Nan Gordon gave the porridge a quick stir and drew the coffee pot to the back of the stove. On her way to the woodbox for another stick she paused to look out of the window. Day was breaking and she could see that there'd been a light fall of snow in the night. Its white freshness covered the black furrows in the north field. Straight, plumpy columns of smoke from the morning train just leaving the small station at Bancroft, three miles away, rose in the still, cold air. The distant toot of that train brought memories to Nan of a frosty October morning four years ago. The same old pain tugged at her heart as she cracked a brown egg open on the edge of the frying pan and eased it into the hot bacon fat.

Jim Gordon had always enjoyed his breakfast. . . . "The best meal of the day! And no one can fry an egg like Nan," he'd declare. An egg smoothly coated in white by much gentle spooning of hot fat.

But it was four years since Nan had cooked a breakfast for Jim. Four years since he held Nan in his arms and kissed her and baby David, just three months old, before leaving to join his squadron that had since roamed the skies over Africa and Europe.

Nan hadn't cried then; the words in her throat caught up in a knot and choked her. She couldn't utter a sound. Jim, always full of understanding, seemed to know and had kept up a continual chatter; probably to ease the pent up feelings in his own heart.

"I'll be back soon, honey. This racket will crack up in no time when we get at 'em. You'll be all right when Uncle Kirk comes down, and Flora will be with you. It's sure great to know you're going to stay on the old farm so the wee lad can grow up where I was a nipper myself. Take care of my apple tree, Nan. You'll be making pies from those Blushed Calvilles before long."

The train had started to puff out black smoke wreaths. Nan held baby David up for a last kiss and before Jim could turn away a tear slipped out and tumbled down where the warm wet kiss lay.

"Another winter," thought Nan desperately, as she spread the cloth on the breakfast table and set down blue porridge bowls for herself and Uncle Kirk and a smaller one for David. "Jim! Oh, Jim, how can I stand it? Another winter all alone," she cried aloud.

DAYS of loneliness and anxiety had lengthened out into four weary years. It was no easy task managing a farm without the help of her husband. Jim had loved his old home farm and Nan, knowing this, made a resolution to guard it well and be there when Jim returned. The first year had been the worst. Bravely, she had tried to carry on with the help of a hired man and Uncle Kirk, who left his shift in the Alberta coal mines to come down and see her through the busy summer months and the harvest. During those long winter months Nan had lived in a world of loneliness worse than she had ever dreamed and in order to shut out the bleak emptiness she had filled every waking moment

with activity. There was the large flock of White Leghorns to care for. She had milked the four cows and cared for the small stumbling calves. She fed the ten pigs until they fattened in the lean-to pen behind the barn. Her household tasks she performed hardly knowing she did them. She worked from light until dark; until she ached from head to toe, only to lie down at night often too tired to sleep. All over the country, she thought, there were women like her, a lonely sisterhood whose men were away at the war.

She missed Jim at every turn. Was it time to sell the pigs? Was this the year to seed the twenty acres in barley? What would she get to mend the shed roof where the rain seeped through and who could she get to fix it? Her problems seemed to mount higher and higher. One by one the hired hands came and left; one to answer the call to serve his country, another declaring he wouldn't take orders from a woman boss another day. It was just after Jake, the last one, left, and Nan was worrying about the spring seeding that should begin in a week's time, that Ted Burrows of the Burrows Brothers Farm Operators came to see her. "We'll have those two quarters of yours seeded in no time, Mrs. Gordon," he said. "We have the machinery to do it. Give me your answer today and we'll give that north field a run over with the cultivator before the end of the week."

BURROWS BROTHERS had taken over the cropping of some of the nearby farms where sons had joined the army leaving the task too heavy for the ones at home. They had acquired more machinery and were operating on a large scale. "We'll leave you the ten-acre field of alfalfa south of the barn and you'll have the pasture run along the creek for your cows. Better decide now, Mrs. Gordon. Time's getting short," urged Ted Burrows.

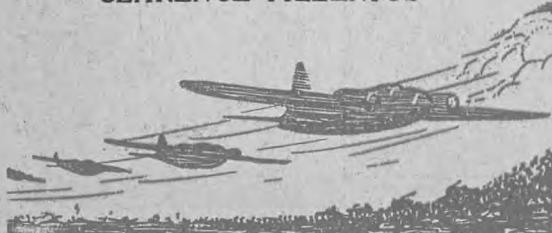
Nan could see no other way. It was impossible to think of carrying on alone with Uncle Kirk. Help was unavailable. Men were no longer looking for work on farms. Nan agreed to let the Burrows Brothers take over the farm on a third of the crop basis. They bought the seed wheat and barley she had on hand and she lived in the old farm house.

Uncle Kirk spent the summers with Nan. The thirty hives of bees which he had located in a sheltered corner of the garden had produced a good crop of honey each year and he was intensely interested in his new occupation. Crops had been good and prices were high. The three-year agreement which Nan had signed with the Burrows Brothers would terminate in the coming spring and Ted Burrows was anxious to purchase the farm. The two Gordon quarters would make a complete section with the two he already owned and he was pressing Nan to sell. Jim had given her the deed of the farm and complete authority to dispose of the land should she decide to move. But that would mean leaving the farm which was contrary to Nan's resolution and her desire to keep the old home for Jim's return. What of the apple tree? It would no longer be Jim's apple tree; someone else would see the mist of pink blossoms that clothed each twig and tiny

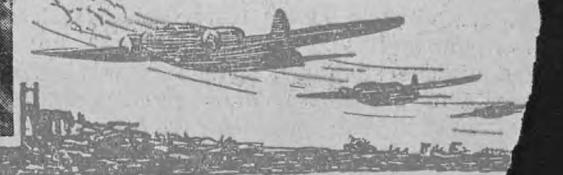
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Nan standing at the apple tree in full bloom whispered "We'll be waiting here, Jim."

Illustrated by
CLARENCE TILLENIUS



CLARENCE
TILLENIUS



SCOUTING AROUND

With Guide Notebook and Camera

This is a Heyer No. 12 apple in its fourth growing season on the Anderson farm, east of Medicine Hat—Guide Photo.

Top: The Anderson garden. Centre: The trench silo. Bottom: The farmstead showing buildings, orchard and, in the foreground, the woodbelt—Guide Photos.

J. I. Moffatt of Carroll

J. I. MOFFATT, of Carroll, was interested in Herefords in Illinois before he came to Manitoba in 1913. He brought his interest in the breed across the international boundary—that's one thing they can't put a tariff on. When he got settled on the section-and-a-half he bought at Carroll he proceeded to make Hereford history in Manitoba. At one time he was the largest breeder and importer of horned Herefords in the province.

In these days the help shortage has made it necessary for him to curtail his operations but at that he has made steady sales and good sales. "I have no barnfull of unsold bulls around the place now," he remarked when I called on him last fall. "During the last few years not much stuff has moved to the United States. The home market has taken all we had to sell. I shipped a fine heifer to Binscarth only yesterday."

I got a good story of some of Mr. Moffatt's earlier experiences from R. W. Rutherford, secretary of the Hereford Club of Manitoba. "In 1920 I think it was," said Mr. Rutherford, "Jim Moffatt and a farmer from Wawanesa went down to the fairs in Chicago and Iowa. He became interested in Polled Herefords and brought back a very good bull and cow. A year or so later he had a sale. By that time he had a dozen or so calves from the bull. They caused quite a sensation. A man from Kinley, Sask., saw them and was very much impressed. He bought both the bull and the cow and that was the beginning of the famous Dybvig herd of Polled Herefords in Saskatchewan. Afterwards Mr. Moffatt carried on with horned Herefords.

"Incidentally that was a record sale. It set a new high for the number of Herefords sold and the prices obtained in Manitoba. It would be—let me see—yes, it was in the spring of 1921. The sale had to be postponed for a few days after the advertised date on account of a terrific snowstorm. About twenty people had arrived at the farm and they were storm stayed for three or four days. We read about men, and we know of men who have made their mark and in many cases you will find that there is a good woman behind such a man. Mrs. Moffatt is a wonderful woman. She was an organizer. Those twenty people were looked after and every one of them was well fed and had a bed to sleep in."

Which, of course, means that the farm home is a commodious one. It has been home to a real old fashioned farm family for four sons and four daughters were raised there. Two of the boys are carrying on at the home place and there are some grandchildren around. The other boys have followed other vocations.

There is a good flock of 50 or 60 ewes on the farm. "There's always a bit of revenue from sheep," remarked Mr. Moffatt. He has a cross of black faced Suffolks which produces a quick maturing lamb. As can be seen from the picture, there is a good outfit of Clyde horses. That indispensable commodity on any livestock farm, a never

failing supply of good water, is there in quantity. "When I came here," he said, "there were two shallow wells. They weren't good enough so I went down 130 feet and got oceans of good water. We needed it."—R.D.C.

Dairying, Fruit and Dry Farming

To most people, dry farming means grain growing, accompanied by a large percentage of summerfallow on cultivated land. Under any conditions, it means larger farms, not only because of the larger acreage required for summerfallow, but also because yields are generally lower due to limited moisture.

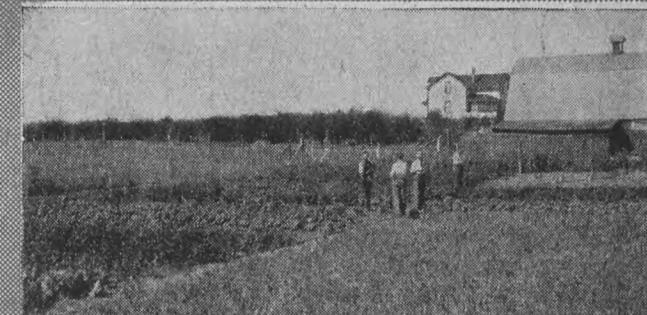
About twelve miles east of Medicine Hat is the farm of A. H. Anderson and Sons. If there is any part of western Canada that looks drier, acts drier and is drier than the district around Medicine Hat, I have yet to see it; and yet the Andersons operate not only a dairy farm, but manage to grow fruit successfully and produce an excellent garden.

The dairy barn contains 48 stalls, and would accommodate 100 head of all ages with satisfactory equipment, except for water bowls, which it had not been possible to obtain. Thirty-five Holsteins were being milked, of which only a few were registered, though it was the intention to increase the number of purebreds somewhat.

Mr. Anderson emigrated from Sweden to the United States in 1907. After working out for a period of four years, he homesteaded in 1911 across the road from his present location. The farm on which the family now lives was purchased in 1925, and in January, 1929, the move occurred.

Any livestock farm in that area would necessarily be large. The district is not so far from the ranching land where as much as 60 acres of land are required to maintain one head of cattle. My own notes say 8½ sections for the Anderson farm, although I have since questioned this for a dairy farm. Nevertheless, a considerable acreage of hay land is maintained at some distance from the home farm.

Milking is done by machine, driven by an ordinary power plant, and the milking equipment consists of three single-cow units. Warm water is supplied by a hot water tank, and a home made lighting system provides light for the barn and drives a vacuum pump. Water is pumped by windmill from a 94-foot well, and the water is piped from a big cistern at the windmill, to the milk house. The well is evidently an exceptionally good one, since it has taken care of 100 head of stock, and last year the garden was irrigated from the same source.



Incidental, but nevertheless important features of the six-acre farmstead, included 200 New Hampshire and 100 White Leghorn pullets which were expected to begin laying September 10-15. There was also a three-car garage, for tractor, car and truck, and a large trench silo immediately alongside the barn. Wherever dairying is practised, the provision of an ample supply of succulent, palatable feed cannot be neglected.

Grain yields are necessarily low in very dry areas. Last year was drier than usual, and oats were expected to yield about 30 bushels per acre. Barley is a somewhat better crop than oats for the district, since O.A.C. 21 will average around 30 bushels per acre, and is preferred to Olli, which has a tendency to shatter. Marquis wheat commonly yields about 15 bushels per acre, but last year was expected to go eight to nine bushels. Some fall rye is usually sown and cut for feed.

Of great interest to me was the success that had been achieved in growing fruit and trees, and developing a good vegetable garden on this very dry soil. The garden slopes eastward from the barn, and had been banked with earth on the south and east to hold the runoff water. At the lower corner was a tile outlet through the earth bank, so that unnecessary water might be allowed to run off before planting time. Neatly laid out and of generous size, an abundance of vegetable crops was growing in early August to take care of the needs of the family during this winter. As already intimated, the garden was irrigated to some extent last summer.

The woodlot illustrated the advisability of adapting cultural methods to climatic conditions. It was originally laid out for poplar, maple and ash. The poplar disappeared, and the box elder, or Manitoba maple were three-quarters gone. New plantings were being made with elms. Evergreens apparently

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Some of the livestock on a livestock farm. Mr. J. I. Moffatt has a tractor but he would sooner look at his horses. His sheep have a Suffolk cross which produces early maturing lambs. But it is his Herefords that have made him such a well known figure among livestock men.

The Voyage of the GOLDEN HIND

PART VI.—THE END

ALL this time, the *Doubloon* had kept her position astern. She now closed up in the moonlight, her port light gleaming. Word of her nearness passed among the men in whispers, yet no great alarm was felt. They had their fish aboard and no dragger could rob them of the fish on the bottom; for there was never a net made that could handle great halibut.

For these reasons, they soon ignored the *Doubloon*. Yet it seemed, for a while, that she meant to speak the *Hind*. She came up within a cable length. There, without a signal, she swiftly changed course. Her engine loudened into full speed. Her screw beat the water hard and she sped off into the northeast. Her lights went out. She rushed through the moonglade and became part of the increasing darkness beyond.

"Now then," said Hardegon to Nora, "there goes Parran! Are we rid of the dog?"

She made no answer. They were standing together in the lee of the foremast. They gazed, with newly troubled hearts, into that moonlight, a golden path shimmering and, at times, overflowing into the *Hind*'s own golden pool. Two or three men, disturbed by their enemy's manoeuvre, came and stood by them, their eyes fixed on the glinting water beyond the glade.

This was the moment when Nora heard, or thought she heard, a faint, faraway wail drifting over the water. She leaned out and listened, striving to search out that cry above the crying of the tide rip.

Hardegon stirred in alarm. "You hear anything?"

"I'm not sure."

A piercing cry rang out in the *Hind*'s bow. The old man on watch there shouted, "Sail ho! A sail! A sail!"

"Where away? Where away, Tommy?"

Thus they locked and each man strained to break the lock.

Hind's crew pit strength and wit against the *Doubloon* in a tense race

By EDMUND GILLIGAN

Illustrated by GORDON HICKS

He came stumbling aft, crying out and pointing into the darkness beyond the tide rip.

The dorymen gathered at the rail. They peered into the frothy dark. No man among them spoke. And this speechlessness at the approach of a sail, drawn to them by the *Hind*'s flaming beacons, became the proof to Nora that, all this time, her hope had been known to them. It had become their hope. And even now, before her misty eyes could make out that sail, her heart became brimful of her love for these men, the prosaic heroes who did a day's work in the midst of peril. The images of other such heroes came before her, while her eyes moved this way and that over the ripples of gold.

A shadow beyond became a gleam. The gleam changed into a little curl of foam under the bow of a dory. A greying space above the bow turned into a rag of sail. And along the gunwale other gleams appeared, where oars were feebly dipping, barely touching the stream, and feebly lifting again.

One more she heard the wail, this time a little stronger, so that she seemed to be hearing a question uttered in a low voice.

She wished to speak but could not. Nor could the others. They gazed en-

thralled at the dory, gazed at the men crouched on her thwarts, and at the festoons of ice and frost that glittered there.

The oars ceased. The voice of an old, old man cried out, "Ahoy the schooner! Ahoy! Be that you, the *Hind*?"

She struck her hand against her mouth, as if the rough blow might force the lips to answer that hail.

It was Hardegon who answered. And all he could say was, "Come in, the dory!"

THE oars struck again, harder this time, and a little sea pushed the dory onward until she glided near. One of the oars slipped into the water and the same old voice said, "Easy does it! You know that, my good man!"

The joy that now seized Nora was so fierce that she shuddered and fell back

from the rail, unable to bear the lifting of the burden and the woe of guilt that she had borne since last she had heard that voice.

A painter curled across the rail. In the silence of their own joy, the *Hind*'s men reached down, holding out their hands. She saw a hand, clad in a yellow glove, reach up and close upon the *Lisbon*'s arms. The *Lisbon* heaved, and at last, he stood before her—huge, frosted, indomitable—the Yankee conqueror of the gale.

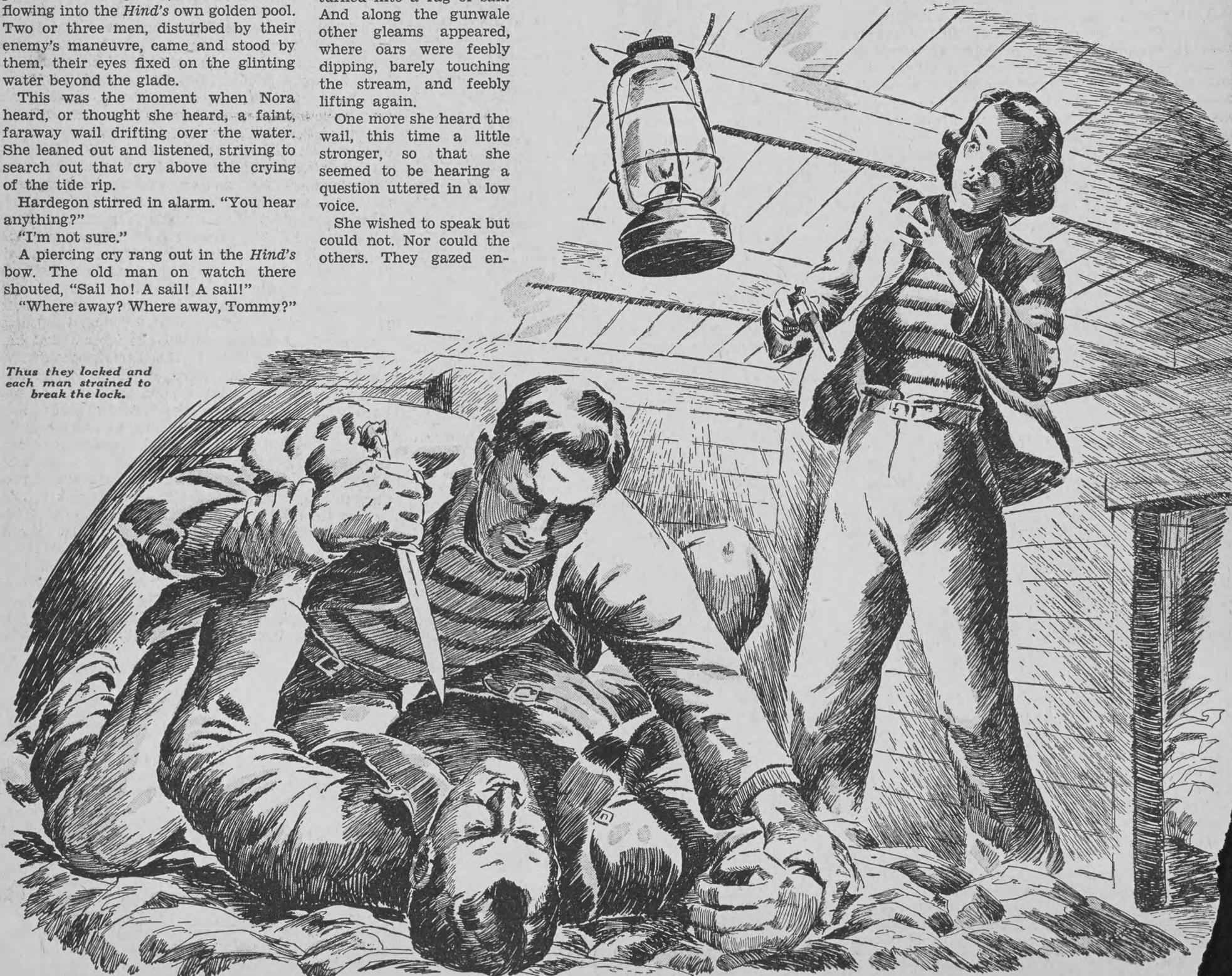
He said, "Ah! salubrious, is it not, my friends? I refer, of course, to—" A little compass fell from his hand and rolled a bit.

The dorymen heaved again and again. Four men came over and stood slouched behind the first, their heads bowed, eyes dully staring at the solid deck.

A man at the break cried harshly, "Are ye ghosts? Or men?"

Old Ambrose took a shaky step toward Nora. He struck the icy sou'wester from his head. It rolled on an unbending rim and stopped against the

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THE GOLDEN FLEECE

By W. H. J. TISDALE

IN view of the rumors and uncertainties which tend to creep into every situation, the opportunity is welcomed to place before "Guide" readers some facts and figures with reference to the current trend in textiles, both raw material and finished goods.

Dealing first with the raw material phase, it is perhaps unnecessary to reiterate that supplies are plentiful. There is not likely to be any serious shortage of essential fibres for some years to come, and it is really more important to know something of the orderly marketing methods now being employed in the disposal of world stocks. Wool still stands out as of paramount importance and proof as to the place this fibre occupies is nowhere more intelligently set forth than in official records of our military services on land, sea and in the air. The Army, Navy, and Air Force are authorities for the statement that after the most exhaustive tests, all services ended the war convinced that wool—and wool alone—was the essential fibre for use in all instances where the health and comfort of the combatant was the first consideration. Our control of world wool supplies undoubtedly constituted one of the real factors leading us to victory in World War II, and the same fibre cannot be regarded lightly as an equally important factor during the period of reconstruction.

Despite its extensive use for purposes of war, huge world stocks of wool have accumulated and this because heavily importing countries such as Germany and Japan were cut off completely from their usual sources of supply—Australia, New Zealand, South America and South Africa. The same applied to all European countries under four and five long years of Nazi domination, and which countries are not finding it too easy to get back into a normal industrial stride. Fortunately the textile machinery of such countries as France and Belgium was left fairly well intact, and as their economy improves with the development of outside trade they will become not only self-supporting but exporters, as well. On this side of the water the American Wool Council states: "American mills are producing at almost twice the peace-time rate. In a good prewar year we consumed 350,000,000 yards of woollens and worsteds. Now we are rolling from the looms at the rate of 500,000,000 yards a year and the output will continue at this peak during 1946." The same steady output of all fabrics continues from Canadian mills.

Realizing the danger of accumulating stocks overhanging the markets of the world, four governments—British, Australian, New Zealand, South African—have recently united to form a joint organization to dispose of wool stocks in conjunction with each world clip as it comes on the market. The British government is providing half the capital, Australia a quarter, New Zealand and South Africa an eighth each by way of financing the proposition, and the accumulated stocks—3,315,000,000 pounds—are equivalent to two years' world consumption. South American wools are not included, nor are the home-grown wools of the British Isles. It is proposed to offer these stocks of wool by auction concurrently with the new clip wools and it is estimated that complete disposal may take as long as thirteen years. "The main object of this joint organization will be to secure a progressive reduction in stocks while maintaining reasonable stability in price, having regard to conditions of world demand. Reduction of stocks will be achieved as long as the total demand exceeds the supplies of new wool which come forward at auction, though in any given year the organization will be both a seller of old wool and a buyer of new wool. The organization will endeavor to maintain the general price level unchanged with a single season, though it may be necessary to meet a definite trend of demand which appears to be of a lasting character."

The assistant manager of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers gives the low down on the wool situation

If lower wool prices are inevitable in competition with other fibres, the plan should result in a steady lowering over a long period rather than the drastic and disastrous decline which followed World War I. Many fibres, comprising possibly half of the world's production, may be salable during the next four or five years at something like today's values because of the

enormous reclining and restocking demand, but due to poverty in many lands and the increased competition from artificial fibres, a continuance of today's general level for the remainder of the thirteen years is somewhat optimistic.

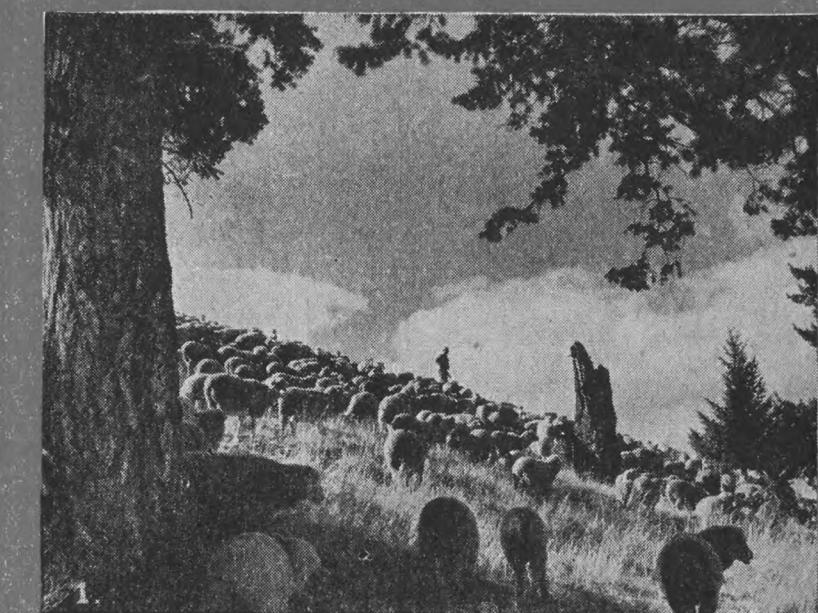
THE Canadian situation itself is very healthy, wartime stocks having been well liquidated and normal trading through regular channels is being gradually re-established. The federal government through Canadian Wool Board, Ltd., has purchased four annual clips after grading in registered warehouses, and as at the end of February, 1946, there will be less than 750,000 pounds left unsold out of the 42,000,000 pound total. The government is committed to taking over the 1946 clip, another 10,000,000 pounds, at prices comparable with the past four seasons and no difficulty is anticipated with its orderly disposal to mill users. Similarly, there has been systematic liquidation of stock piles stored in Canada for military purposes to a point where they are no longer burdensome, and actually the best of these wools have been found most valuable to mill users because of their "spot" nature. Contrasted with our Canadian position, Washington is having to face right up to the problem of disposing of a huge American domestic surplus at prices greatly reduced from those prices paid to the American grower for his last three annual clips, and with the taxpayer taking the rap.

Although wool is being stressed in this article, the fact is not lost sight of that the world has extensive accumulations of raw cotton and that the production of rayon and other artificial fibres has proceeded apace. "It is perhaps sad but none the less true that while the wool growing and wool textile industries have been content to rest upon their traditions and their memories, the less serviceable synthetic fibres have developed from an interesting technical experiment to a fibre manufacturing industry which, in the United States alone, is approaching in volume 50 per cent of the grease weight wool production of the world."

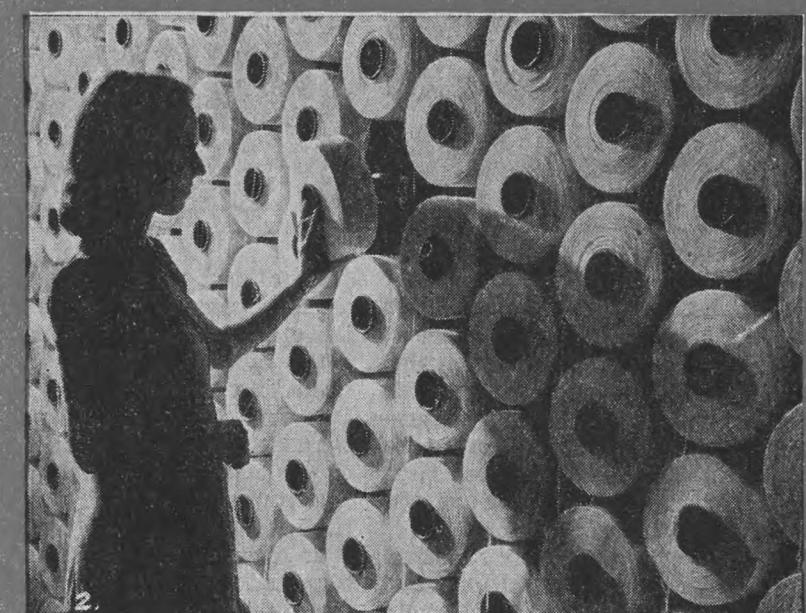
Accordingly, science should and will discover new properties and uses for wool. Practical shrink-proof wool is on the horizon and washable woollens promise soon to become household articles. Research will produce more water-

repellent and mothproof woollens, greater crease and wrinkle-resistant woollens and new weaves and textures to meet the requirements of a world in which men will travel almost with the speed of sound through the air. There lies a market of almost incalculable dimensions in the field of air travel alone.

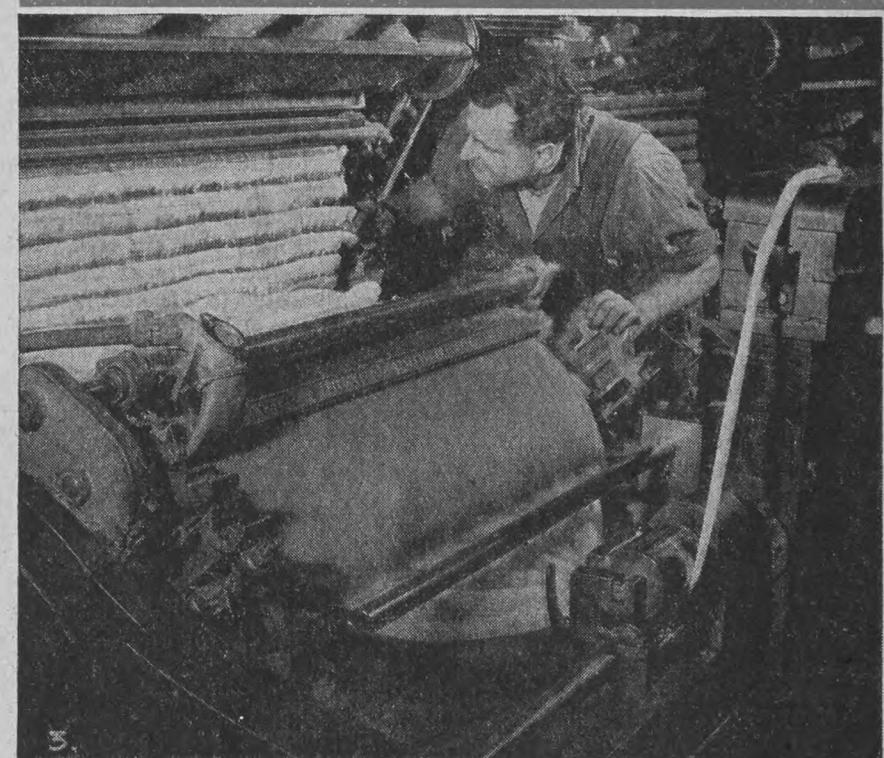
All this being true, it becomes more important than ever before that Canadian sheep owners put forth every effort to produce cleaner and better wool. The future holds no brief for the indifferent flockmaster, and it was with this in mind that commencing in 1943 the federal government instituted a four cent per pound bonus for all clips properly tagged and cleaned for market at time of



1. A flock of sheep in the Kamloops, B.C., district with typical background.



2. Inspecting "cheeses" of cotton yarn in a Canadian textile factory.



3. This worker describes his job as "playing midwife at the birth of a thread."

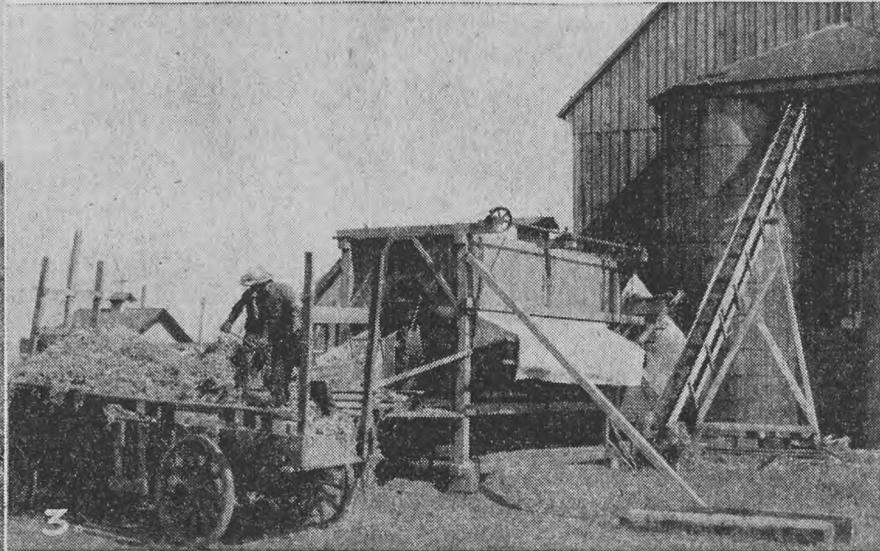
shearing. Payment of this bonus over the past three years has been contingent on the provincial government participating upon a 50-50 basis, and all provinces have participated except Manitoba. Growers throughout Canada thereby received an additional \$318,000.00 in 1943, \$285,000.00 in 1944, \$272,000.00 in 1945. Comments from the various registered warehouses in which Canadian fleece is graded provide all the necessary proof that the idea has produced excellent results, but space permits quoting only one, as applying to the 1945 clip: "It has been our experience, particularly this season, that clips have been better prepared for market than ever before. Growers have carefully segregated their rejects and we have not had one instance, in the number of clips we

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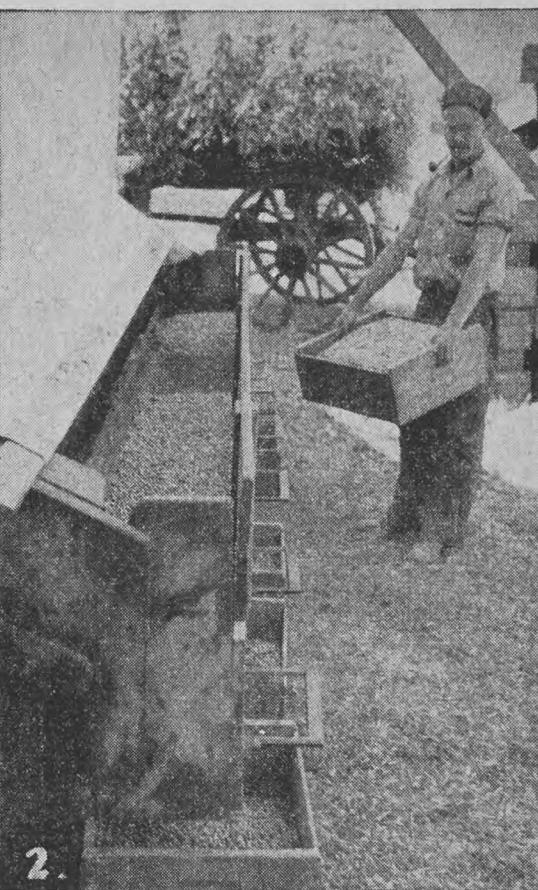
FARMING IN THE FRASER DELTA

By J. T. EWING

Canning peas, potatoes, grain and vegetable seeds, and dairying provide a profitable mixed type of farming on the fertile, diked lands of the Fraser River Delta in B.C.



1. Peas are cut with a mower, loaded onto racks and hauled immediately to the viner. 3. The laden vines are fed into the viner and when stripped of the peas, are elevated into silos. 2. Peas as delivered from the viner.



[Author's photos.]

WHEN mention is made of British Columbia agriculture most of us think of small "ranches" of 10 acres, or even smaller parcels of land. During a visit to the Ladner district during green pea harvest time, I found that while an occasional small acreage could be seen, larger farms were the rule. The average farmer owned 100 acres or more.

My visit to this area came about as a result of a conversation with Ernest MacGinnis, British Columbia's Markets Commissioner. "You will be surprised at the extent of the green pea industry in the Ladner area," he declared. "A cannery has been in operation at New Westminster for 20 years, but now one in Vancouver and one at Ladner as well, are working to capacity to handle the hundreds of tons of peas grown on the Delta each year."

A glance at a map of the area south of Vancouver will reveal a fairly large parcel of land between the Fraser River and Boundary Bay. This land, formed by sediment of the Fraser River in ages gone by, is about four feet below sea level, and is protected by dikes from invasion by the tides. The soil is a heavy clay and is very fertile. Peas are well suited to this type of soil and each year an increased acreage has been planted.

Mr. MacGinnis suggested that I get in touch with Murray Davie, who was a typical good farmer of this district, and could give me an accurate picture of the best farming practices there. An hour's ride from Vancouver by bus brought me across the Fraser River just outside Ladner, to this town of 500 persons. It was four miles farther—just a short hitch hike—to my destination, where I found the pea harvest in full swing.

Mr. Davie's John Deere tractor was furnishing the power to run the machine which removed the peas from the pods. The vines, with the peas on them, were fed into one end of the machine, which is called a viner. The podded

peas fall into a hopper at the left side, as they come through small holes in the cylinder, designed to prevent emergence of the pods. The cylinder was about ten feet long and four feet in diameter. The vines, minus the peas, were elevated into the silos to be used as ensilage. Asked about the value of pea vine ensilage, Mr. Davie admitted that it is not of the highest quality. It is highly acid, but is fairly satisfactory, and is an economical way of using this by-product of pea canning.

MR. DAVIE took me to the field where a few of his sixty acres of peas were being harvested. An ordinary mower, fitted with a special bunching cradle, was used in cutting the peas. As soon as possible after being cut, they were loaded onto a rack and hauled, behind the truck, to the barnyard where the viner was set.

"We usually have grown about 1,500 acres of peas in this area," Mr. Davie told me, "but this year the acreage has been boosted to 2,000 acres. All the seed for these fields is imported—the best

tion about cultural practices. "If we can obtain barnyard manure, we find that its use gives best results. The peas are seeded at the rate of 250 to 300 pounds per acre, depending on variety. Between each day's planting a four day interval is allowed to elapse in order to stagger the maturing dates so that none of the peas become overripe before they can be harvested.

"We find a pea crop very beneficial to agricultural practices here, in rotation farming. It calls for good seedbed preparation and liming. Being a legume it stores up nitrogen in the soil. It is the best crop to go ahead of seeding down a hay crop, because it is off so early that it gives the nurse crop a chance to get started in the fall."

No cultivation of the crop is necessary during the growing season. If the pea aphid appears there is dusting equipment to control it. Peas planted on the fifteenth of April are ready to harvest about July first. They start vining at five a.m. and stop at five in the evening. Every three hours a cannery truck picks up the peas so that they may be processed while they are still fresh.

"We are paid on the basis of the grade of the canned peas," Mr. Davie explained. "For the Fancy grade we are paid \$77.50 per ton. For the Choice grade we receive, \$65, and for Standard, \$40. The smaller and more tender the pea, the higher the grade. Some canneries buy on a straight price of \$65, which usually works out about the same as the other method."

The cannery officials are the "boss" in determining the kind and amount of seed used, the time of planting, the kind and amount of fertilizer used, and the time of harvest, according to Mr. Davie. They even decide how many acres each farmer may grow. Each viner can handle the crop from approximately 50 acres. (Mr. Davie has 60 acres which are all to be

handled by the one viner.) Usually each farmer grows 50 acres, or two farmers make up fifty acres between them.

"Our average day's threshing cleans up two to two and one-half acres of peas," Mr. Davie disclosed. "Around six tons of green peas are boxed, at about 45 pounds to the box."

When the peas arrive at the cannery they are unloaded onto a covered platform. They are trucked to the cleaner hopper, which is set into the wall of the building. This cleaner removes pods and other foreign material. Then they go through a washer on the ground floor, which thoroughly cleans them. An elevator carries them past the second floor, to the two size graders at each side of the top of the building. These graders are huge cylinders, five feet in diameter and 35 feet in length. Here the peas are graded according to size—2, 3, 4, 5.

Then each size is put across the grading tables on the second floor. The girls' nimble fingers take out thistles, broken or yellow overripe peas, or anything which should not go into the cans. Each of these tables is 20 feet long, and is fitted with a cream-colored rubber, endless belt, 18 inches in width.

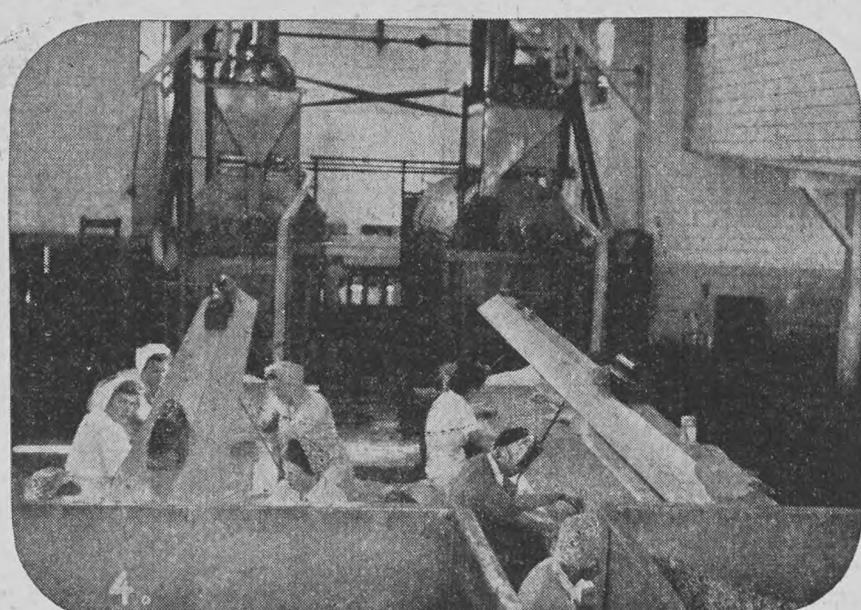
The peas drop into another water bath and are then elevated to the blancher, above which is another washer, where any remaining hulls are screened out. In the blancher the peas are parboiled to remove the air from under the skins. They remain in this tank of boiling water for a time varying according to size—two minutes for size 2, three minutes for size 3, etc.

As they come out of the blancher the parboiled peas go into a "rod washer," then on to a shaker screen which removes splits and skins which get past the rod washer, and removes the wash water before the peas go into the cans, or barrels, as the case may be.

PEAIS to be canned, and their brine, go through the same machine into the cans. They are automatically closed and sealed in this filling machine and are ready for sterilization. Brine for cans is made up of 21 pounds of sugar and 17 pounds of salt, to 100 gallons of water.

The eight retorts each have a capacity of 100 gallons.

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4. Women work at the picking tables in the pea cannery at Ladner, B.C.

Girls Are Funny

A gay story of a man who came courting the sweetest girl on the Johnson tree

By Henry Oliver

ILLUSTRATED BY ROBERT RECK

be no doubt. Dad had fixed the board on the side of the house, and now he was going after a screen window that had been hanging by one hinge for months.

"If Dad fixes that screen window we won't have a haunted house no more," Tony said.

"Who cares," I replied, thinking only about Mr. McCoy's shiny new buggy, and wondering what Kay thought of him.

"Wonder what Kay thinks of Mr. McCoy?" I asked of Tony.

"Hard to say," Tony replied shading his eyes, "girls are funny."

Tony squatted, like a calf about to bolt, working his toes up and down in the soft dirt. "He's coming," he shouted.

"Are you sure?" I asked.

"I can't see him."

"Sure . . ."

"I see'm!" I shouted.

"Kay! here's your man."

There came a threatening rattle on the window. I looked up to see Mama shaking a warning finger at us.

We could see Mr. McCoy now real good. He was out on the open stretch of road about a mile from our place, and by the dust following him we knew he was coming pretty fast too.

"I'll bet he's driving Abulah," Tony said.

"I doubt it," I countered. "Mr. McCoy said that on special occasions he always drives Lillian."

"What makes you think this is a special occasion?" Tony asked.

"Oh, don't you see how everyone's acting? If you were a little older you'd understand those things."

"What things?"

"Oh, love and all that stuff."

"But . . ."

Tony never got a chance to finish because just then Kay came around the corner of the house in haste.

"You boys," she said, "come in here and get scrubbed at once."

"Oh—heck, we want to ride to the barn with Mr. McCoy," we whined.

"Mama said . . ." That settled it—if Mama said!

"Jeepers, what's the use of having a guy like Alex coming here if we can't take a ride with him," we beefed.

"Yeah!" Tony said, "you might as well keep going with Ben." Kay blushed.

MR. McCoy pulled Lillian into the yard at a brisk clip, just as we got back from being slicked up. The black top of his buggy was partly down and McCoy sat there in checked pants and waistcoat, and a black topper. The whole outfit was something to see. The red spokes chased each other around the hubs in an endless stream.

I watched Alex McCoy's every move, then suddenly I realized what made him a devil with the ladies. It was his red mustache, and the way he had it curled.

I whispered my observations to Tony—who said I was nuts. He knew, and he told me he knew, any girl would be a fool not to go out with a man with a new buggy, that had red wheels and rubber tires, especially when McCoy was the only male in the country with all that lady killing equipment.

"But Kay hasn't gone out with him alone yet," I reasoned.

"Of course not," said Tony. "A girl can't just pile into a guy's buggy and go with him. She's gotta wait 'til she's asked."

I wasn't so sure that he hadn't asked Kay to go out with him. But I could wait.

I was watching Alex's every move because I wanted to be a woman killer like him.

McCoy stepped out of the buggy, and before Dad had his side unhitched, Alex was all finished with his side of Lillian. He did things so fast and with such a cocksure speed that I just stood and gawked at him.

Dad and Mr. McCoy talked and laughed all the way back to the house. Dad opened the screen door, and Alex had to stoop down to get through, he was so tall. Mama was still at the stove putting the finishing touches to what was a great feast. McCoy said something funny and Mama laughed. Then she hustled everyone into the front room where the long table had been moved. It was the second time that I could remember us eating in the big front room. The other time was when Dad's rich aunt came up from the east, and he wanted to make an impression.

McCoy found himself an easy chair and made himself at home. He pulled out a leather tobacco pouch and some brown cigarette papers, and all the while he rolled a smooth smoke, he carried on a running conversation with Dad.

Tony and I just sat there on the floor staring up at Alex—what a man! Boy, if Kay had any brain she'd

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KAY.

MAMA'S lemon pies were out in the dugout cooling; so was the mold of jelly, the headcheese, and the cole slaw. Mama's face looked red, and very hot from standing over the stove baking. Dad said she must be crazy to cook and bake on a hot day for a windjammer like Alex McCoy. But Mama told him to keep a civil tongue in his head.

Mr. McCoy was a neighbor of ours. We had known him ever since he had bought the old Lutus Farm three years ago. He had never been to our place for a meal before. Lately he had been coming over pretty regularly. It all started when Kay went up to the River Valley school to a dance while Ben Reed, her old boy friend, was away. McCoy danced with her three times and he'd been coming down to the house since then. So now Mama had given him the invite for Sunday dinner.

Dad didn't care much for Mr. McCoy. Dad said he wouldn't trust him as far as he could throw a bull by the tail. Of course he said that rather confidential—not where Mama could hear him. Mrs. Brown said McCoy was a devil with the ladies, and Mrs. Wilby said he was a wolf in sheep's pants.

Mama's dough for cinnamon rolls sat rising on a chair close to the stove. Tony raised a corner of the cloth which covered the dough and slid his tongue once around his mouth hopefully. Then he glanced up to see if Mama was looking. She was.

"Mama," he said, "what's a woman killer?"

"Where'd you hear that?" Mama asked.

"That's what Mrs. Brown said Mr. McCoy was," I said.

"She's a cad," Mama stormed. "Mr. McCoy's a gentleman."

"Would you marry him, Mama?" Tony asked.

Mama reached for a piece of stove wood and Tony and I both made for the screen door, not a second too soon either for Mama was expert at silencing us by that method.

"If you come back in here again to bother me I'll lock you both in the backhouse while Alex is here," she warned.

Tony and I leapfrogged around to the side of the house where we could see if Mr. McCoy was coming. Dad was around back of the house putting in a new piece of dropsiding where one board had been ripped off for a few years. The new, clean board looked funny on the side of the house with the dark, weather-beaten boards all around it. Something pretty special must be in the air if Mama got Dad to fix that broken board, I thought.

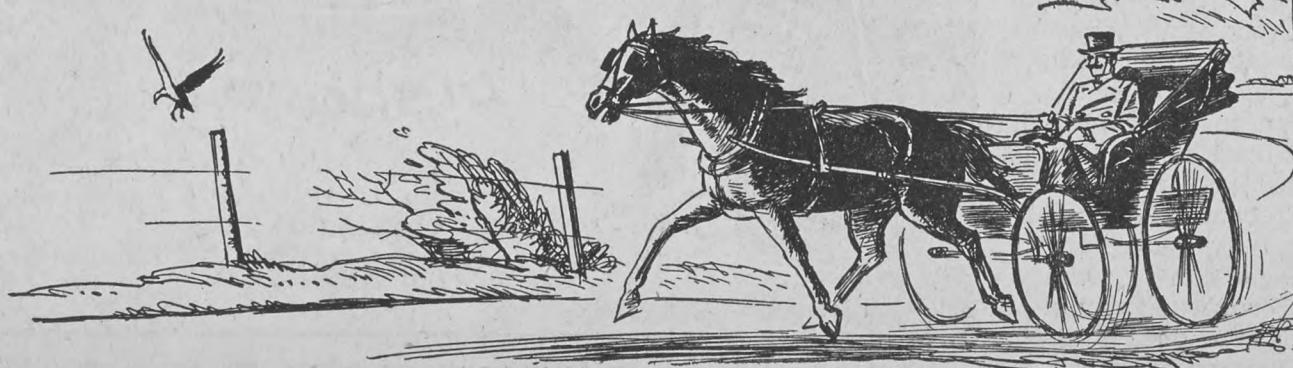
There was an air of life about the place—something was happening here, something big.

Mama was cooking like I'd never seen her do before. Kay was fixing up her Sunday best—for McCoy, there could

McCoy had a new buggy that had red wheels and rubber tires.



ALEX MCCOY.



THE Country GUIDE

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THE NOR'WEST FARMER and FARM AND HOME.
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Subscription price in Canada—50 cents one year; 75 cents two years;
\$1.00 three years. Outside Canada \$1.00 per year. Single copies 5 cents.
Authorized by the Postmaster-General, Ottawa, Canada, for transmission
as second-class mail matter. Published monthly by The Country Guide Ltd.
Printed by The Public Press Ltd., 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

VOL. LXV

WINNIPEG, APRIL, 1946

No. 4

International High Finance

Canada is lending Britain \$1,250 million on terms which parallel the American \$3,750 million loan recently negotiated by the administration but not yet ratified by Congress. These loans are in the form of credits to be used during the next five years to buy food and raw materials. They will carry two per cent interest beginning January 1, 1951 and will be amortized out in 50 years. But as at Washington, the negotiations at Ottawa were not confined to the loan; they produced an overall financial settlement. In 1942 Canada advanced an interest free loan of \$700 million which has now been reduced to \$500 million by the repatriation of Canadian securities. This loan continues interest free for another five years, by which time it is expected that it will have been fully paid. Britain owed Canada \$425 million on the Commonwealth Air Training Plan. This has now been wiped off the slate by the Canadian government. Various other claims between the two countries, such as for food and other materials delivered by Canada between VJ-Day and February 1 were set off against each other and Britain agreed to pay \$150 million in settlement of the balance, which totalled \$300 million.

* * *

But this is only a small part of the financial assistance which Canada has advanced to Britain. Following the \$700 million loan referred to above, this country made her a straight gift of a billion dollars with no strings attached. Then the policy of Mutual Aid was adopted and through it another two billion dollars went to Britain. The total of the loans and gifts is \$4,950 million. The adjustments in amounts owing to this country bring the advances and commitments to Britain alone up to \$5,525 million not counting the repatriated securities. In addition Mutual Aid was extended to other countries, including Russia. Since the close of the war some \$750 millions in credits have been guaranteed to other countries such as Holland, Belgium, Norway, and France. Canada's commitments under Bretton Woods are \$625 millions. The grand aggregate of all these gifts, advances, and commitments is in excess of seven billion dollars, of which less than half is repayable and over a long period of years at that. These colossal sums are in addition to financing the Dominion's own war effort including demobilization, pensions, assistance to discharged soldiers, and reconversion costs. It is being done without borrowing a York shilling outside of Canada's own boundaries.

* * *

The financial strength shown by this nation of barely twelve million souls has indeed been a revelation. To the quest for the reason, there is only one answer. It is based on the natural resources of the country. Britain, dependent on imports for two-thirds of her food and the vast proportion of her raw materials except coal, found herself in a vulnerable position under the stress of total war. Her conversion to war production was complete. Export trade was forgotten. It was only by liquidating foreign investments and with the help of Lend-Lease and Mutual Aid that her financial structure stood the strain. Now that the struggle is over, it will take at least \$5,000 million of borrowed money in the next five years to help buy food and materials while she is re-establishing her foreign trade.

THE COUNTRY GUIDE

Canada is happy to be in a position to contribute her full share of the required amount. But just how, under this burden, the people of Canada can expect to enter into the abundant life is difficult to see. Britain is not talking about abundance but practising austerity. It might be well for Canadians to remember that blessed is he who doesn't expect too much, for he shall not be disappointed.

* * *

There are two considerations in making this loan. The first is Britain's need. She threw everything she had into the war. Her exports were cut down to one-third their normal volume; she lost half her shipping and it is still far below the prewar tonnage; her income from foreign investments has been cut in half; her foreign debt, largely for war goods still unpaid for and outside of Lend-Lease and Mutual Aid, is £13 billion against a prewar figure of two billion sterling. Because her conversion to a wartime economy was complete her reconversion is costly. She didn't come as a mendicant, hat in hand begging for alms, but with her head up, the equal in a great war partnership who, next to Russia, suffered the most and paid the most. The other consideration is that in the next five years \$1,250 million more of the products of Canada's farms, mines, and fisheries will be shipped out. It will help stave off a postwar slump, but it also has long term implications. Britain in normal times, takes 38 per cent of Canada's entire exports. She furnishes the largest and most reliable of Canada's overseas markets. To help re-establish that economy is in the interests of this Dominion. In helping Britain, Canada is helping herself.

* * *

International loans and credits emphasize and underscore the need for greater freedom of trade. It is not \$1,000 bills of the Bank of Canada that will go overseas, nor American bank notes if the loan is ratified by Congress. Not bales of bills, but bills of goods constitute international exchanges. These huge transactions, extending over many years would fail of their purpose if trade restrictions hampered the exchange of goods for which they have been made. Great Britain is not taxing the imports of food and raw materials. The goods will move freely in that direction. When the loan is being repaid they will have to move freely in this direction. This is an important matter. The average imports from the United Kingdom for the four pre-war years were \$125 million a year. This means

that the principal of the loan, not counting interest, is equal to ten years' imports at prewar levels. But the payment will be no bilateral matter. The settlement of international balances is a multcornered affair. Furthermore these loans are but a part of the great international movement, which includes Bretton Woods, for the rehabilitation of war shattered economies and the restoration of world trade. The world is being driven inexorably into the position where it will have to recognize that international commerce will have to be unshackled from tariffs, cartels, and every other species of trade restriction.

Scientific Information

In this spy case a clear distinction should be made between war secrets and general scientific information. War secrets are in a category by themselves. Technical knowledge regarding a high explosive or the atomic bomb is one thing; technical knowledge regarding an advance in plant breeding or plastics or surgery is another and entirely different matter. One ties in with national defense; the other refers only to human welfare. If, for example, Canadian scientists evolve a hardy apple or sawfly-resistant wheat or a waterproof glue, the knowledge is, as it should be, freely shared with the scientists of any other country, including Russia. If, on the other hand, Russian scientists have produced a perennial wheat or a potato that will grow within the Arctic Circle or a new vaccine, we would expect them to continue to share the knowledge with us. The free exchange of scientific knowledge which contributes to human betterment is infinitely precious. It would be deplorable indeed, if the spy case should hinder in any way the free flow of such scientific knowledge between Russia and the other advanced scientific countries.

The Famine

There are over 60,000,000 bushels of marketable wheat on prairie farms. In normal times this is a healthy condition. It is carrying the ever-normal granary idea back to the farm. Held-over wheat constitutes a reserve to be drawn upon in case of a short crop or a failure. The quota system forced the farmers to store more wheat, great reserves were built up on farms and the practice persists. It is a good practice in normal times and nothing could be said against it if times were normal.



THE WITCHES' BREW—IT HAS BEEN OVERDONE

But times are not normal. The world is enduring the agony of a wheat famine. Hundreds of millions are on the border of starvation. Millions of them will die of starvation or of diseases contracted because of lowered vitality from semi-starvation. That myriads of people, including children should starve while wheat lies unused is a maladjustment which is not mitigated because the starving ones are thousands of miles away instead of dying in the streets of the nearest village or town.

One ingenious suggestion for getting the wheat out is that the farmer, if he wishes, could take a certificate instead of payment in cash. This document could be cashed in the future. Payment would be made at the ruling price when the document was cashed and credited to that year for income tax purposes. The government policy is a modification of this suggestion. Farmers who deliver wheat before June 30 may choose any time they wish up to December 31, 1948, to accept payment, at present prices, and the returns will be subject to income tax for the year in which the payment is taken.

Meanwhile, the cry of starving millions is a plea that the last shovelful of wheat be scraped from the corners of the granary and sent on its way to feed the stricken victims of the greatest famine in human history.

Refractory M.P.'s

The case of Fred Rose, Communist M.P. has aroused interest in the powers of parliament in dealing with a member guilty of conduct unbecoming a M.P. There is enough ambiguity about the business to give the House considerable latitude. It can, through the Speaker, admonish him and tell him not to repeat the offense. It may suspend him for disorderly conduct, in which case he is "named" by the Speaker and a motion is made by the leader of the House for his expulsion. The House can also expel a member. Expulsion can be based on a report of a parliamentary committee, or he can be ordered expelled if he violates his Oath of Allegiance taken after becoming a member. As in the case of Rose, a member who has been accused and arrested and is awaiting trial, can take his seat in the House. If he is expelled it does not mean that his seat becomes vacant. That can be done only by passing a special act of parliament. In an ensuing by-election or a general election he can run as a candidate. The power exercised by parliament over its members applies to conduct both inside and outside the House.

Why All The Fuss?

A lot of dust is being kicked up over holding some of the spy suspects incommunicado. It might be well to reserve judgment on the matter until the whole story is pieced together. These creatures, some of them simple minded and gullible, some of them scheming traitors, are not accused of petty larceny or assault and battery. Their crime is conspiracy against the state.

They were held incommunicado at the request of the Royal Commission sitting on their case. The Commission is not acting as a court. Its duty is to collect the evidence. It believed that the collection of evidence would be hampered if the suspects had their freedom. Secrecy was necessary because they were unearthing a secret, underground conspiracy. It was a serious conspiracy with international implications. Not only was the Russian Embassy at Ottawa involved but, as Premier Mackenzie King informed the house, "Canada was being made a base to secure information on matters of very great and grave concern to the United States and also to Great Britain." A fifth column was being created in Canada through conspiracy with public servants. If, in the judgment of the eminent jurists who man the Commission, the investigation would be facilitated by apprehending some of the conspirators and segregating them for a few days, the importance of the case, which is agitating several of the great capitals of the world, probably warranted it. It is easy to waste too much hush-washy sentimentality on them.

Under the PEACE TOWER

JUST as the sun starts going away from the planet earth after June 21, so has United States turned from Canada and headed away under the Truman regime. Ottawa and Washington are getting farther apart all the time. This is my boiled-down verdict after a swing through the American south, which saw me visit points as far apart as Daytona, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Hot Spring, Arkansas. In all I visited 18 states. What this quickly widening political fissure portends one can only guess, but it reads like bad news for Canada.

Let me insist at the outset that for all the fine talk about democracy, the United States functions as a benevolent dictatorship just the same. Just think back. Woodrow Wilson left his stamp on the States, indelibly. His almost sublime conceptions of man's relationships with man were succeeded by a regime of the Boys in the Back Room, while Warren Harding beamed benignly. I shall not run through the business of Keeping Cool with Cal, nor looking so pathetically for that Prosperity just round the Corner that Hoover spoke of so wistfully. But I do insist that Franklin Roosevelt gave the United States the most personal kind of government. True, the people approved it, and they approved of him, as nobody else ever was approved, yet nevertheless his cabinet was his own choice, and it was he who created the world's first Brain Trust. Who indeed, was Harry Hopkins if he was not the great Roosevelt's alter ego.

Now, only a year has gone by since Roosevelt died. There have been no general elections. Where are the Roosevelt men of yesteryear? Where is Roosevelt's cabinet. I'll answer that. Within a year, Rooseveltism has disappeared, disappeared just as quickly as if a magician had waved a wand. Instead we have got Trumanism. Mark you, there has been no sign from the people, no balloting, no plebiscite, no nothing. One man has replaced another at the White House. If this is not government by personality rather than ballot, by president rather than the people, then what is!

That brings us down to President Truman. Of the few Canadian reporters who covered the Democratic convention at Chicago in July, 1944, I was the only one to attend the Truman interview. It was a poor affair anyway, with only 20 or so reporters thinking it worth while. I spoke to Truman about Canada, found him vague, surprised at questions about Canada, and finally forced to fall back on the safe response: "I'm right behind the president; whatever Roosevelt says about Canada is all right with me."

At the same convention, a little earlier, I had had a good look at Robert Hannigan, the Democratic organizer, the latter day Jim Farley. A smooth, slick Irishman with a flair for politics, a genius for back stage operations, and a great knowledge of human nature, he looked what he seemed. Today, as postmaster general of United States, he is Prince of Patronage. That's what the job calls for in the States, that's what Missouri's Hannigan is supposed to be.

NOW then, on April 12, last, Truman suddenly became president. That automatically threw the Hannigan Machine into high gear. One way and another, the Missouri men started getting all the plums. Truman too, is a product of the notorious Prendergast Machine in Kansas City, though let it be said he never got himself mixed up with those incalculable operations of K.C.'s Boss. Nevertheless, he is an apostle of the spoils system. He is of the school—and there's a lot to be said for it—that believes you should reward loyalty. You should when you get to the top help the fellows who held the ladder for you. Perhaps the best example I can give you of the Truman school of politics was the Pauley episode, where he tried to force this California potentate on the States, but where he proved not strong enough to stand off the open onslaughts of Curmudgeon Ickes, nor argue away the sage private counsels of his smarter friends. The point is however, that Truman was willing to have Pauley, if he could put him over.

Now, then, what I am leading up to is that we are having a Harding Regime, in a sense, in the United States today. The super-genial Warren Gamaliel once admitted that he was like a prostitute, and with a laugh said he could never say "No" to anybody.

Now if you follow all this, you will find that Truman

has gradually surrounded himself with tried and true Missourians, and that his domestic appointments consist mainly in taking care of the boys. The story goes that a personnel man was about to turn down an application. Asked why, he said: "Why, the man can't read or write." Then the adviser whispered: "Yes, but he's from Missouri?"

"Why didn't you say so," exclaimed the personnel man quickly. "Tell him he's hired."

Now as a Canadian, I am bound to ask myself what must be the ultimate effect of hiring men who do not know, and therefore likely do not care, about Canada. From Missouri, this Dominion seems an awfully long way off. (I know—I was there last month.) I have never heard of Truman coming to Canada, of ever showing any interest in Canada. Roosevelt had a summer place at Campobello, New Brunswick, and he visited our country frequently while he was Governor of New York. There were half a dozen instances before the war, and during it, when Roosevelt was a welcome guest to Canada. I can't see Truman being the least interested.

The effect of this unconscious indifference to Canada means that other things come first. It is said that only one man ever called Prime Minister King "Mackenzie" and that was Roosevelt. They were on a most intimate basis, talked over the long distance all the time. Indeed, the story as I get it is that King's remarkable knowledge of the war was achieved far oftener through the easy contacts with Roosevelt than the more formal approach through Churchill. Now all that is lost, hopelessly lost. Truman can never be to King what Roosevelt was. Sure, the men are friendly enough. But somehow, everything has changed.

The White House crowd thus thinks more in national than international terms. True, they may get steamed up over Russia, but they will never show the interest in, and solicitude for Canada that the late Mr. Roosevelt did.

NOW you may well ask me to prove my case. I naturally cannot document it by going and testing how warmly this heart beats for Canada, as against that. But I have just as sure a way. Your old time reporter—and I am that if nothing else—can sense things, feel them, just as surely as if they were printed in neon lights. As you go through the States, you see a failure to understand, a woeful lack of grasp, an ignorance where intelligence should be. I have good friends in the Carolinas, in the Deep South, elsewhere, who I see and sense and feel are growing away from Canada. I can tell by what they say, they don't know much about us. Worst of all, they don't want to know. My wife, American born, can mingle perhaps on terms with other Americans that I cannot. She reports the same thing among our warm friends. In a word, we're slipping.

This is bad news for us. We have no friends at court the same way we had; our Good Neighbor in the White House sleeps his last sleep in Hyde Park, and there's none to take his place.

Our only hope is this: I talked about the sun inexorably travelling away from us after June 21. But just as inexorably, it turns back toward us six months later. All we can do then is to hope that the long White House swing away from us will ultimately come to an end, and that sooner or later, and sooner rather than later, the move will start the other way.



H. Rose

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Official Canadian recommended wheat acreage for 1946 remains at the 1945 figure, but a nine-point wheat conservation program was announced on March 17 by the Prime Minister.



World Food Famine

THE peace of the world will be threatened this year by famine. Millions are certain to die of starvation before the year's end. The more we in Canada help, in one way or another, the fewer people will die for lack of food.

The governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada have been apprised of the growing seriousness of the food situation since shortly after Christmas. At that time, wheat requirements of importing countries were known to be 17 million long tons (2,240 pounds or 37 1-3 bushels) for the first six months in 1946. Available exportable supplies were estimated at no more than 12 million long tons. The shortage, about 190 million bushels, almost equals Britain's annual wheat imports from Canada.

Since that time, unfavorable food supply developments in India, South Africa and elsewhere have increased the amount of food required, while other conditions have tended to reduce the amount of wheat previously considered available. Caused primarily by war and its maladjustments, the world food shortage has also been accentuated by increased food consumption in the surplus agricultural countries; by drought in Australia and Argentina during 1944 and 1945; by drought in South Africa in 1945-46; by the failure of rains in India; and by the liberation of rice-consuming countries in the East before rice production could get into full swing after the early collapse of Japan. The result was a total world food production in 1945 that was 12 per cent per capita below prewar. A survey of the world's food situation, covering 65 countries, showed reduction in food supplies chiefly concentrated in areas normally dependent on imports.

With per capita food consumption in the United States (and Canada) now exceeding that of any previous year, only Denmark and Sweden, among all countries of continental Europe at the close of 1945, had diets approximating prewar levels. Greece, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Norway, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium face a decline during the first half of 1946, from a standard of between 2,100 and 2,500 calories daily per head of the non-farm population. Other countries, including Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, Finland and parts of Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Roumania show the effects of malnutrition, hunger and even starvation, on about two-thirds of prewar per capita food consumption. Even if production in Europe increases this year, it is not expected to reach prewar levels.

Russian production has increased above the low level of 1943, but is still below par. In unoccupied China, drought caused spotty food production, and war reduced production in Manchuria and Formosa. In short, world production of all foods in 1945-1946 was about five per cent less than prewar; but on a per capita basis, the decline is approximately 12 per cent, owing to an increase in the population during the war period.

In percentage decline of actual production, the decline in wheat is about eight per cent; rye 15 per cent; rice 16 per cent; and sugar 18 per cent, while

substantial reductions have occurred in the production of fats and oils, eggs and dairy products.

With world wheat production in 1945 the smallest since 1929, and accentuated by a 36 per cent decline in Europe from prewar, and practically all European countries adopting increased wheat flour extraction rates, varying from 85 to 96 per cent (Netherlands, North Africa, Norway, Poland, and the United Kingdom 85 per cent; Austria, U.S. Zone in Germany, Greece, Hungary, Portugal and Yugoslavia 90 per cent; Italy 91 per cent; Russia 80 to 96 per cent; France 90 to 95 per cent; South Africa 96 per cent), the Combined Food Board has been meeting frequently in Washington to consider the claims of various countries on the limited food supplies available. Also, the three countries represented on the Combined Food Board have taken action to conserve wheat and other foodstuffs among their respective peoples. The British Minister of Food, Sir Ben Smith, announced on

February 14 that the British government had accepted a reduction during the first half of 1946, of nearly a quarter of a million tons of wheat imports. It is not possible to make this reduction out of stock, so the flour extraction rate was increased to 85 per cent, and the supply of animal feeding stuffs substantially reduced, which means less bacon, poultry and eggs for the British people, by the amount of decreased home production. The butter, margarine and cooking fat ration was also decreased from eight ounces to seven ounces weekly, beginning March 3. Likewise, the British Minister of Agriculture called on British farmers to make the maximum contribution to food production, and on all classes of the community to grow everything possible this year.

In the United States, beginning about the middle of February, a program of wheat conservation was inaugurated, limiting the amount of wheat used by mixed feed manufacturers, and prohibiting the use of flour for this purpose; limiting inventories of wheat by

millers, feed and food manufacturers, as well as distributors; increasing the extraction rate to 80 per cent; and tightening control of wheat exports. Effective April 1, no person in the U.S. may receive, in any manner, wheat mill feeds in any quarter to an extent greater than one-sixth of his total receipts during the calendar year 1945; nor more than two-thirds as much wheat mill feeds to be used for the manufacture of mixed feeds as was used in 1945.

Early in March, the consignment selling of bread and bakery products was prohibited. The President's Famine Emergency Committee on March 11 issued a public appeal for a voluntary sacrifice of 40 per cent of public consumption of wheat products, and 20 per cent of foods, fats and oils, during the next four months, ending July. An appeal was also made to reduce waste since "America still throws away the richest garbage in the world." Farmers were asked to reduce the current heavy rate of livestock feeding. U.S. hogs have been going to market 20 pounds heavier than in any other year of record. Cattle are more highly finished. Dairy cows are receiving grain and concentrates at record, or near record rates, and on March 1, changes in subsidies and price ceilings were made in order to facilitate the adjustment of livestock feeding to the reduced supplies of food grain. One hundred non-Federally inspected slaughtering plants were added to the set-aside government procurement order, and will hereafter set aside 13 per cent of the live weight of hogs slaughtered, 30 to 50 per cent of their beef, 40 per cent of utility grade veal, and 20 per cent of better mutton grades, for government purchase.

The Canadian government delayed official announcement of its food conservation program until March 17, when Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced a nine point program which was both restrictive and persuasive, under which:

Wheat for domestic milling will be reduced by ten per cent; wheat for distilling purposes reduced by 50 per cent; by a special campaign, consumers will be encouraged to save wheat products and grow as much as possible in home gardens; increased quantities of oats, and No. 4 wheat will be made available for export; farmers will be urged to plan production to obtain a maximum food yield over the next four years; farmers will be encouraged, by special arrangement, to immediately market wheat stored on farms; all interested parties will be encouraged to reduce inventories of wheat and wheat products; wheat for export will be given priority for rail transport, and the regulations affecting bulk shipments of flour and feed will be modified. The recommended wheat acreage for 1946 still remains at the Dominion-Provincial Conference figure of 23,414,000 acres, which is the same acreage as was seeded in 1945.

In announcing this program, Prime Minister King said that during the three years ending July 31, 1946, Canada will have exported about one billion bushels of wheat to supply to needs of about 80 million people, and that by the end of July we will have shipped all the wheat accumulated in elevators during the war years.

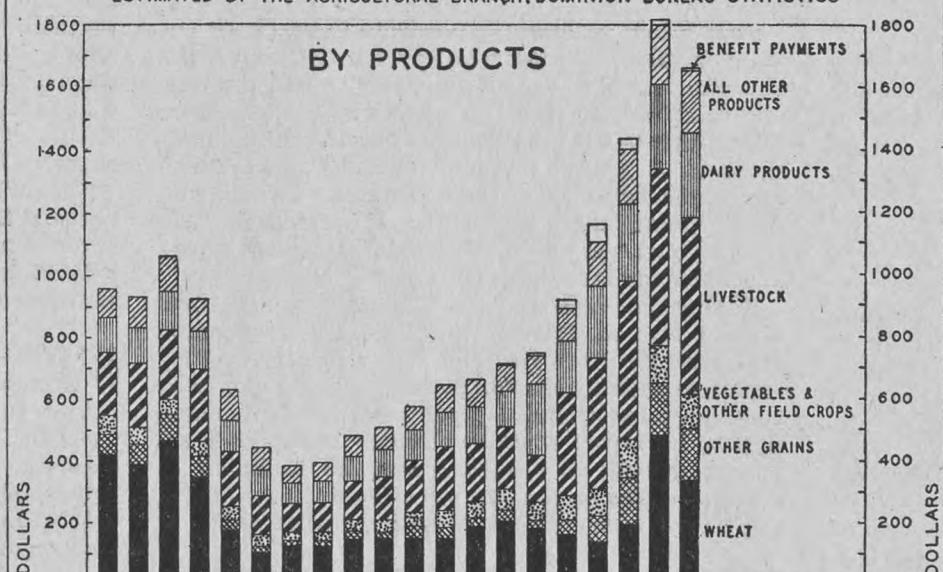
"In proportion to our population," he said, "Canada has exported, to meet the needs of the world over the past two years, more food than any other nation. Moreover, in doing this, the government has fixed prices for these foodstuffs, not at the very high levels which we might have demanded in view of scarcity conditions, but at a fair level, having regard to domestic price levels and long-time trends.

"One pound of flour will keep a person alive for a day. An additional ten million bushels of wheat from Canada would maintain life for 15 million people for one month."

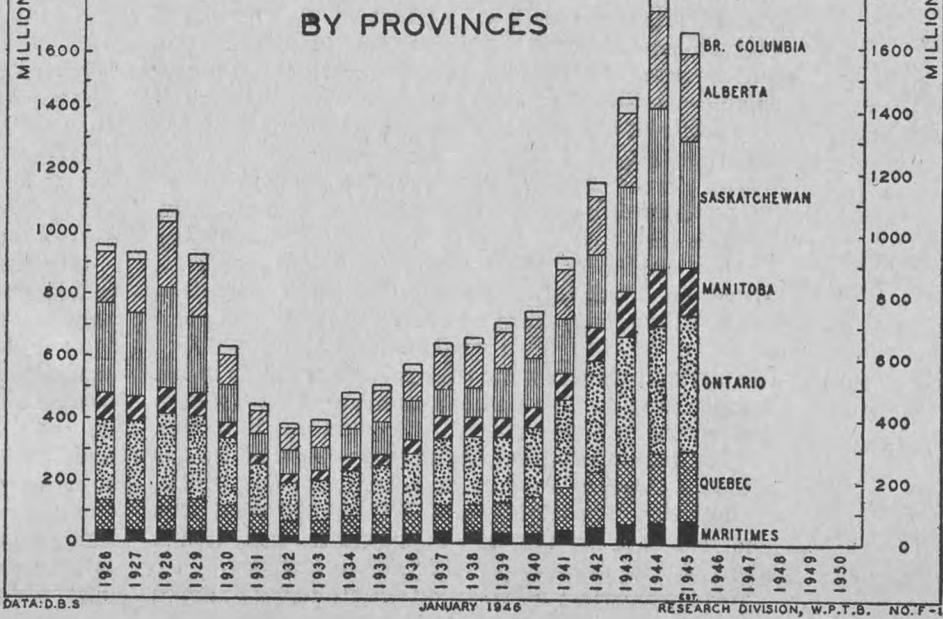
Canada, the Prime Minister said, was co-operating fully with the Combined Food Board in coping with the world food shortage. He also announced the terms of agreement now under negotiation with the United Kingdom, fixing such quantities of food products, including wheat, over a period of years, which would be marketed in Britain, would be announced shortly.

CANADIAN FARM CASH INCOME

ESTIMATED BY THE AGRICULTURAL BRANCH, DOMINION BUREAU STATISTICS



BY PROVINCES



Dr. Shoemaker Goes East

ON May 1 of this year, the prairie provinces will lose one of our most distinguished horticulturists. On that date, Dr. J. S. Shoemaker, since 1934 head of the horticultural work at the University of Alberta, will take up his new duties as Professor of Horticulture and Head of the Department of Horticulture at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

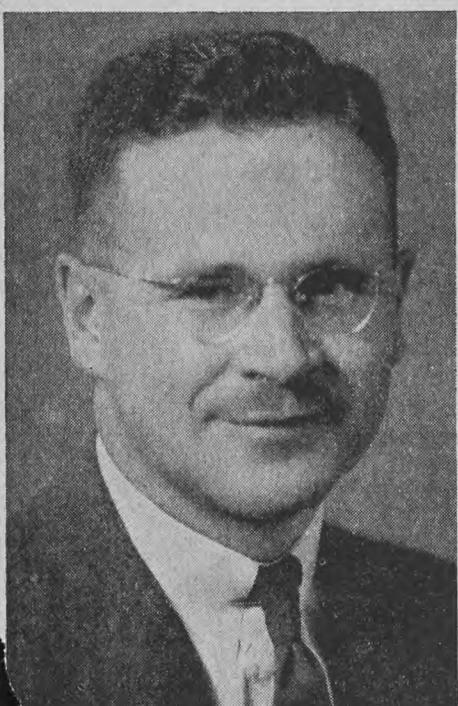
Dr. Shoemaker graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College, becoming a Bachelor of Science of Agriculture (B.S.A.); later obtained his Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) from Iowa State College, and his Doctorate (Ph.D.) from the University of Minnesota. He spent some time at the Michigan Agricultural College, and in commercial research and extension work. For ten years prior to 1934, when he came to Alberta, he was Associate in Horticulture at the Ohio State University.

Dr. Shoemaker is a prolific writer, being the author of more than 100 publications of many kinds and on many subjects. His first book was published in 1934, has gone through three editions, and is widely used as a text in universities and agricultural colleges. It is entitled "Small Fruit Culture." He has another book about to be published on "Vegetable Production." During recent years, he has prepared two correspondence courses for the Canadian Legion, for which more than 2,000 persons in the various armed services have registered.

Since returning to Canada, Dr. Shoemaker has several times headed the horticultural group within the organization of professional agriculturists now known as the Agricultural Institute of Canada. He is the immediate Past President of the Western Canadian Society of Horticulture, Honorary Horticulturist of the Edmonton Horticultural Society, Associate Director of the Edmonton Exhibition Association, Permanent Chairman of the Awards Committee of the Men's Athletic Association at the University of Alberta. Always interested in athletics, particularly, perhaps, in hockey, his eldest daughter, Daria, has held the provincial half-mile swimming championship for junior girls, and many other swimming trophies.

One of the most significant contributions made to the horticulture of western Canada by Dr. Shoemaker, has been in success in placing graduates in horticulture, in important positions. Most of the appointments in the horticultural field in the prairie provinces during the past ten years, as well as a number in British Columbia, have come to graduates of the University of Alberta.

In person, Dr. Shoemaker is hard working, quiet, genial and likeable. His methods are not spectacular, but he will be missed by those who have come to know him in western Canada, and he will carry with him to Ontario the best wishes of all who have come to appreciate his work.



Dr. J. S. Shoemaker.

Record Perth Cattle Sales

ORTHORN and Aberdeen-Angus breeders in Britain were jubilant over the breed sales early in February,

when record prices were established, according to reports of the sales in "The Farming News" and "The Farmer and Stockbreeder." For one week, the top price of 7,500 guineas for the supreme champion bull, Erwin of Harviestoun, constituted an all-British cattle record price, but at the Perth Shorthorn Sale a week later, a world record price of £15,225 (\$67,446.75) was established for the champion Shorthorn bull Pittodrie Upright, consigned by R. Laidlaw Smith of Pittodrie, Scotland.

At this sale, the reserve champion bull sold for export at 5,500 guineas, the junior champion at 2,800 guineas, the reserve junior champion at 14,000 guineas (to Col. S. J. L. Hardie, Ballathie, Scotland). The champion female at 3,000 guineas and the reserve champion female at 1,500 guineas both went with the champion bull to R. L. Smith, owner of Sni-A-Bar Ranch, Missouri, who purchased a total of 13 head, including 11 heifers, for the equivalent of about \$126,000 Canadian dollars.

The five bulls contributed by R. Laidlaw Smith brought an average of £7,497 (\$33,211), and the 309 bulls sold in the sale averaged £529 (\$2,345), compared with the highest previous Perth Shorthorn bull sale record of £302 in 1920 for 486 bulls.

In all, this year 417 head, including 108 females, averaged £438. Of these, 120 were sold for export to bidders from the United States, Canada, Argentina, South Africa and Australia, for a total of around \$300,000. Thirty-six bulls and three heifers touched the four-figure mark (English pounds), and two bulls the five-figure mark. Total proceeds of the sale in Canadian dollars were approximately \$810,000. A point of unusual interest to breeders is the fact that the five bulls contributed by W. Laidlaw Smith for an average of £7,497 were all sired by his 3,200 guinea bull, Bapton Upright.

The Perth Angus Sale

At Perth, the week prior to the Shorthorn sale, 473 head of Aberdeen-Angus achieved an overall average price of £241 for a total take-in of £114,004, which compared with £143 10 s. average for 472 head sold a year ago. Three hundred and twenty-nine bulls averaged £268, which compares with an average of £186 last year.

The 7,500 guineas price for the supreme champion, already mentioned, was received by J. E. Kerr, Harviestoun, Dollar, Scotland, who won the bull championship for the sixth time in seven years, and achieved an average of £1,873 for 11 bulls, as well as groups of three, two bulls, and three bulls get of the same sire. The champion was a full brother to the 1945 champion from the same herd, which sold for 4,500 guineas.

Twenty-one Angus females and seven bulls came to North America, and about 14 females and 30 bulls were sold to the Argentine; while five bulls went to New Zealand, one to Rhodesia and one to Australia. Of the 14 bulls reaching the four-figure mark in pounds, two remained in Scotland, three went to England, and nine were exported. Of the five females reaching four figures, one went to England, two to the United States and two to the Argentine.

Junior Club & Extension Conferences

TWO conferences of considerable agricultural significance in Canada were held in Winnipeg March 4-8. The first of these was a general meeting of the Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work. This organization is of limited membership and was set up some years ago to furnish co-ordination and overall encouragement to the junior farm clubs which are now organized in every province in Canada. Membership includes not only representatives of provincial and Dominion departments of agriculture and of universities actually interested in promoting club work, but of certain commercial interests who have taken out annual memberships in the Council at a rate of \$500 per year, as a means of assisting in the development of these junior organizations.

The Council ordinarily meets in Toronto in the fall of the year at the time of the National Club Judging Contests, but this general conference was called for a full discussion of all phases of junior club work, and was in the nature of a general conference rather than

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5% DDT RESIDUAL Household Spray

The product you have been waiting for—a sure end to the menace of flies, mosquitoes, moths and other pests in homes, camps, restaurants, etc. "Green Cross" DDT Residual Household Spray, in addition to being fortified with DDT, contains one of the most effective contact insecticides known together with a special activator, thus stepping up its knock-down and killing power. It is non-staining, has no unpleasant odour and is safe to use.

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an annual meeting. The presiding officer was Dr. W. V. Longley, Director of Extension, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Truro, N.S. Present also were directors of extension and provincial club agents from all provinces, except Prince Edward Island, who discussed together matters of club policy for a three-day period.

A decision was reached to change the name of the Council to The Canadian Rural Youth Club Council, an awkward, harsh sounding name chosen for utility rather than euphony, and designed to represent the wide field of activity represented by club work, both as to age of club members and the type of project engaged in.

A major policy decision was as to the necessity of developing a type of club for older rural youth, which would have a distinctly community flavor, and would appeal to young farm men and women who have outgrown the single project clubs for boys and girls aged ten years and over. Further study is in prospect for this expansive development in Canadian rural club work. The question of scholarships for club members was also given consideration, as was the advisability of extensive participation in club work by young people who are not strictly rural. Similarly, the character and selection of teams for participation in the National Club Judging Contest at Toronto received considerable attention with a view to securing for each contesting team, relative equality in opportunity and training before being matched with teams from other provinces in the contest.

The feeling at the conclusion of the three day conference was that similar conferences should be held more frequently, if not annually.

Immediately following the conference on rural club work, a conference on agricultural extension was held for the following two days. Persons attending this conference were practically identical with those interested in club work, since the latter is mostly developed by the extension services in the various provinces.

The Extension Conference was the first of its kind held in Canada of a national character and was chiefly valuable because it provided an opportunity for extension specialists in the various provinces to exchange ideas and to hear from others the story of their own experiences. In short, the purpose of this conference was to determine how best the work of district and agricultural representatives and of extension specialists in all fields of agriculture could be most efficiently carried out. Discussions ranged from office routine to training of extension personnel and the advisability of setting up local organizations in individual counties or districts. It included a discussion of joint projects between Dominion and provincial departments of agriculture and the relationship of extension work to farm and other organizations. It included discussions of educational methods, type of publications and visual aids to education, and was by common consent regarded as helpful to all.

China's Food

THE people of China, estimated at 425,000,000 persons, consume approximately 179,000,000 tons of food per year, or an average of about 842 pounds each. Of this huge quantity of food, only about 1,900,000 tons was imported prewar. Of these imports 595,000 tons were of wheat and flour, (flour about 20 per cent), nearly a million tons of cleaned rice, and about 330,000 tons of soybeans and soybean oil. Small quantities of other foodstuffs such as sugar, fruits and dairy products were also imported. China also exports some food products, especially peanuts, eggs, cheese, animal products, sesame seeds and other oil-seed products.

The principal farm crops grown in China may be divided into two groups, summer crops and winter crops. Rice is by far the most important crop of all, amounting to approximately 55,000,000 tons, of which more than 75 per cent was produced in what was Free China. The next most important crop is wheat, of which nearly 24,000,000 tons were produced each year; and of this, what was Occupied China produced slightly over 60 per cent. Sweet potatoes to the amount of nearly 20,000,000 tons are grown, about 60 per cent in

Free China; and barley, of which more than 8.5 million tons were produced, is grown about equally in Free and Occupied China. Around 7,000,000 tons of kaoliang, millet and corn are grown annually, with nearly the same amount of soybeans. These, together with sweet potatoes, rice, peanuts, sesame and tobacco, are summer crops while wheat, barley, field peas, broad beans, rape seed and oats are grown as winter crops. Peanuts, field peas and broad beans are each grown to the extent of about 3,000,000 tons. Less than a million tons of oats are produced.

The diet of the Chinese people is made up of a total of approximately 81 per cent by weight of cereals, comprising 28 per cent of rice, millet 18 per cent, wheat 16 per cent, corn 8 per cent, barley 6 per cent and kaoliang 5 per cent. There are, however, some differences in various parts of China. In North China, a great diversity of grains was consumed, with wheat the chief



Major agricultural regions in China showing: A, rice region; B, wheat region; and C, grassland and desert area.

cereal and rice comparatively unimportant. In Central China both wheat and rice are eaten in very large quantities. South China eats heavily of rice, but the sweet potato is the principal staple of the poorer population. In West China, the diet is more varied, rice being mixed with other cereals, somewhat as in Central China.

North China is more subject to famine, and calcium deficiency is much more prevalent, while there is a dearth of vegetables at certain seasons of the year. Of meats, more pork is consumed than of any other, but quantities of all meats are comparatively small and for the poor man, meat is a special luxury.

China produces a wide range of fine fruits, including oranges, pomeloes, lemons, bananas, figs, dates, mangoes, and the temperate grown fruits such as apples, pears, grapes, peaches and persimmons which are grown in the central and northern parts of China. Quantities are far too small, however, and distribution is poor, since facilities for the drying and dehydration of fruits are very limited.

Wm. Southworth Dies

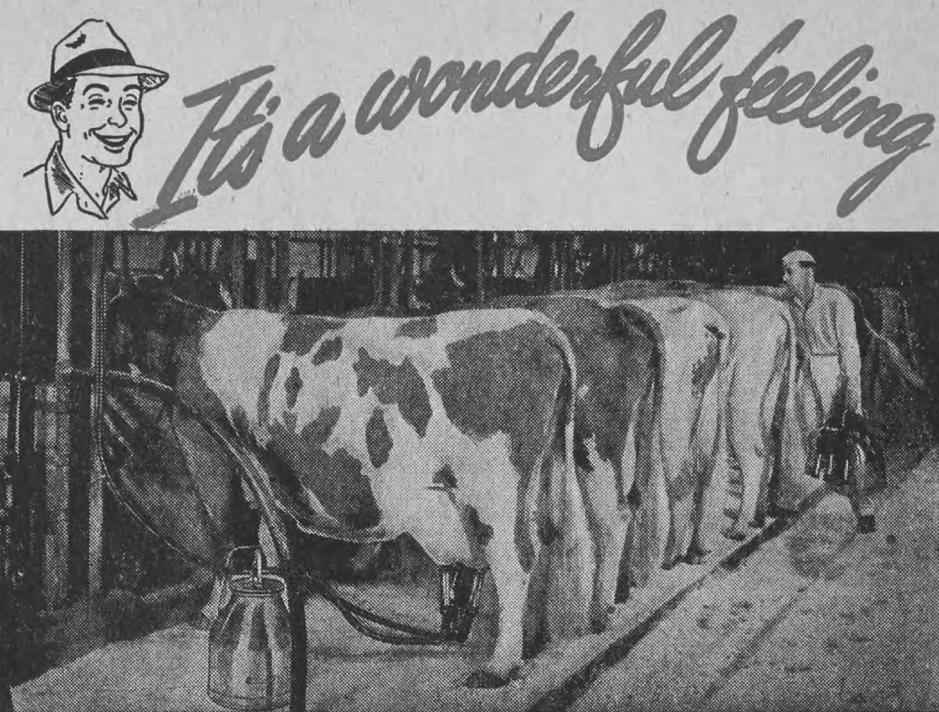
WORD has been received from Lancashire, England, of the death of William Southworth at the age of 79. Professor Southworth conducted plant breeding work at Manitoba Agricultural College from 1916 to 1927, after which he returned to England where he held important posts with several seed firms and later at Aberystwyth University and Rothamsted Experimental Station. He retired in 1939.

While in Manitoba he produced several new varieties of forage crops, including Manhardy Red Clover, Aura Sweet Corn, Dural Timothy, Manitoba Flint, and Manitoba Amber corn, and Manitoba brown soybean. In England he became well known as a cropping expert, carrying out important experiments on the growing of alfalfa, wheat and soybeans.

Stop Mold by Electronic Rays

SUBJECTING wrapped bread for five seconds to electronic rays, is the process now being used by one company in the U.S. with 37 bakeries, to kill mold spores without causing changes in the food value of bread.

The process is expected to effect a saving equivalent to 150 million pounds of bread annually if it were used by all commercial bakeries. Tests show that after treatment, an exposure of bread to three weeks of warm, moist air showed an electronically treated loaf to be still mold free, while an untreated loaf was covered with feathery spores.



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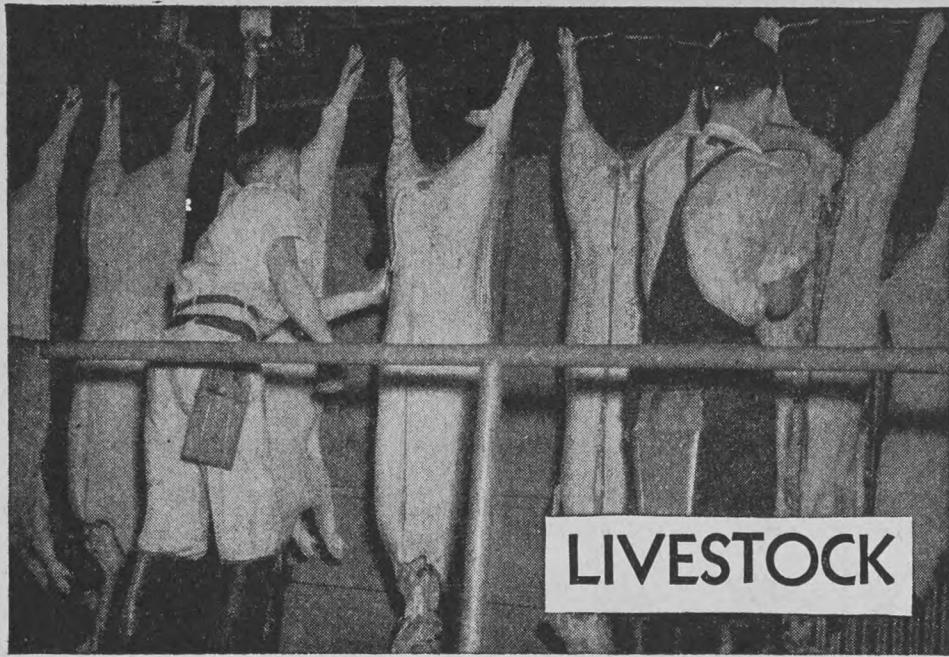
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[Photo by White.]

Division of labor in a packing plant. The man on the left is putting the Canadian export brand on a hog carcass.

Management of Native Grass

DURING the grazing season, a steer should gain around 300 pounds in weight, and officials at the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, state that a mature cow or two-year-old steer will graze about 22 pounds of native grass forage per day, in order to make this gain. If less grass is provided, lighter steers will be the result; and if beef cows with calves at foot are forced to graze on less efficient pasture, their calves will not weigh the 400 to 450 pounds produced by the good pasture.

In the present state of development of the livestock industry in western Canada, the basis of the industry is native grass, which, according to the Swift Current officials, provides the bulk of the feed consumed by more than 8,300,000 head of cattle, horses and sheep. It is from this Western asset, very largely, that Canada has been able to contribute so abundantly of meat and other animal products during the war years.

The non-arable land in western Canada, we are told, amounts to more than 45 million acres, from which about 60 per cent of the forage consumed by western livestock is produced, either as pasture or hay. On practically all of this acreage nutritive native grasses grow and provide a well balanced diet for young livestock, as well as mature animals. During the early spring and summer, when most growth is made and moisture is most plentiful, the protein and mineral content of native grasses is high. This stimulates growth and guarantees normal development of

growing stock. When these native grasses cure later in the year, as many of them do, a type of forage results which is excellent for fall and winter grazing.

It is pointed out, however, that in the shortgrass prairie region, the average production per acre of air-dried forage is less than 300 pounds. In the mixed grass region, a somewhat greater yield is secured, varying from 400 to 650 pounds per acre; whereas, in the foothills area, still heavier yields are secured, running as high as 1,500 pounds per acre, though the average would be substantially less.

One of the outstanding deterrents to maximum yield of native grasses is overgrazing. All authorities explain that to maintain greatest productivity in grassland, from 40 to 50 per cent of the annual growth should be left on the field at the end of the grazing season. When grass fields are overgrazed, not only can fewer head of cattle be carried, but the growth is deficient in mineral substances and other valuable growth factors. If overgrazing is added to drought conditions, native grass pastures may deliver only a very small percentage of their maximum efficiency. In a great many fields, a portion only of the grass area tends to be overgrazed because of poor distribution of watering facilities, improper location of fences, or the wrong distribution of salt throughout the pasture. There is probably as much room for improvement in pasture management and development in western Canada as in any other aspect of western agriculture.

Milestones In Saskatchewan Dairying

NOTABLE large-scale development in every branch of agriculture over any large area, such as a province, seldom occurs rapidly, but requires many years from the first small beginning until an important branch of the industry has been established. So it is, for example, with dairying. The beginnings of what is now the production division of a large and important Canadian industry, were made in western Canada more than half a century ago, and in eastern Canada, of course, beginnings were at a still earlier date.

The gradual, but nevertheless substantial, development of dairying in the agriculture of western Canada is well illustrated by the growth of dairy production and manufacture in the province of Saskatchewan. From Percy E. Reed, dairy commissioner for Saskatchewan, we have obtained the following "Milestones in Saskatchewan Dairying," which we reproduce, not only because they will be of interest to thousands of farmers in that province, but because they illustrate so well the progress that has been made in prairie agriculture and also tell the story of a slow and sure development.

1825—First cows reported in Saskatchewan.
1890—First Saskatchewan creamery at Saltcoats.
1911—First Saskatchewan cheese fac-

tory at Springfield (near Saltcoats).

- 1896—First Saskatchewan dairy convention.
- 1905—Saskatchewan granted provincial autonomy.
- 1906—Provincial dairy branch organized March 1.
- 1906—Five creameries in operation. Total make 88,617 pounds.
- 1912—Creamery butter make exceeded 1,000,000 pounds.
- 1912—Voluntary cream grading adopted (two grades—sweet and sour).
- 1913—Butter grading service established by provincial government.
- 1914—Establishment of department of dairying, University of Saskatchewan.
- 1919—First boys' and girls' dairy cattle judging competition, at dairy convention, Saskatoon.
- 1921—Provincial government cow testing scheme established.
- 1923—Creamery butter make exceeded ten million pounds.
- 1923—Compulsory cream grading adopted, with fixed legal grade standards.
- 1927—Organization of first herd improvement association at Moose Jaw.
- 1928—Dairy branch laboratory established.
- 1928—First boys' and girls' dairy calf

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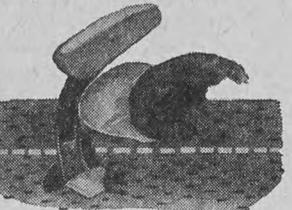
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club organized, Moose Jaw.
1929—World's record for butterfat production in 305 day period made by Saskatchewan cow — Canary Korndyke Alcartra (record 1,080 pounds butterfat).
1934—Creamery butter make exceeded twenty million pounds.
1942—Creamery butter make exceeded forty million pounds.

Get The Warbles In Time

THANKS to the efforts which have been made by the Dominion and provincial departments of agriculture during recent years, and especially as a result of the excellent work of R. H. Painter, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta, every farmer in western Canada should by this time realize that warble fly damage costs Canadian farmers millions of dollars each year.

Damage can be controlled with comparatively little effort and expense. The damage comes from the two kinds of flies which lay their eggs on cattle during the summer months, the heel fly and the large warble fly. At this time of year the grubs have worked their way up to the backs of the cattle, and lumpy backs indicate the presence of grubs which will emerge and drop to the ground, to develop into further heel flies and warble flies, unless treated now.

Three or four treatments are advisable, the first of which should be given, in British Columbia, in February, and in the prairie provinces, about the third week of March. The second and third treatments should be given at intervals of about 28 days later, and if possible a fourth treatment about 35 days after the third. More than one treatment is required because the grubs do not mature at the same time. In some cases more than one treatment is not practicable, in which case it is advisable to make sure of at least one treatment in the month of April. Information as to how to apply the treatment can be readily obtained from any experimental station or provincial department of agriculture, or by writing to the Dominion Entomological Laboratory at either Kamloops, B.C.; Lethbridge, Alberta; Estevan or Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; or Brandon, Manitoba.

Peas, Protein and Bacon

R. M. HOPPER, assistant superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farm, Brandon, has reported on the use of peas as protein supplements for the feeding of bacon hogs. This crop is being grown to an increasing extent in all four western provinces. There are also good reasons for believing that the area in which the pea crop is now being grown can be still further extended.

In the two feeding tests reported, satisfactory gains were made when as much as 50 per cent of the supplementary protein was supplied by peas, the balance coming from meat meal and fish meal. In both tests, five per cent each of bone meal and iodized salt were fed along with the protein supplements. The tests are of interest in view of the fact that protein of animal origin, such as meat meal, is superior to proteins of vegetable origin for pig ration. Nevertheless, they show that satisfactory results can be secured when a mixture of equal parts of animal and vegetable protein is used. Pigs that have been well started will require from 10 to 12 per cent of meat meal in the ration, until they reach a weight of 100 pounds, but where a mixture of equal parts of meat meal and pea meal are used, this mixture should make up from 14 to 17 per cent of the ration in order to secure the same rate of gain.

In the tests, different amounts of pea meal were used, varying from 40 to 60 per cent of the protein supplements fed; and in the case of each ration used, the protein was added until it made up 16 per cent of the ration for all pigs under 100 pounds in weight. Between 100 and 150 pounds in weight, the protein content of the feed was reduced to 14½ per cent, while during the finishing period, it was still further reduced to 13½ per cent.

All the pigs in the test gained an average of 1½ pounds daily, and the different supplement mixtures produced almost identical results. That these results applied to carcass quality as we-

as to gains, is shown by the fact that Advanced Registry scores for carcass quality were very similar, and averaged 77. In each case, the basic grain rations used consisted of nine parts of chopped barley and one part of chopped oats.

Be Careful With Crossbreeding

SOME time ago you had a most interesting article on crossbreeding of livestock, which was well supported by facts and illustrations.

Your conclusions are practically the same as my own. I am convinced that Hereford crossing with any breed is not the best cross by any means. The Hereford is one of our best breeds of beef cattle today, and certainly the best breed of ranching cattle we have in Canada. This has not been always so, as some of the older breeders among us will concede. Not very long ago, ranchers had to cross the Hereford with the Shorthorn and vice versa too, to keep up the size of our ranching cattle for breeding purposes.

Today, what has happened to bring about a condition, that makes the Hereford predominant on the largest part of our Canadian ranges? The Hereford must have improved as ideal ranch cattle, since the bulls are in such a great demand all over the Canadian ranching country and in the states to the south. If you want big, strong framed cattle, come north to a colder climate to get them. This works out to the benefit of our Canadian breeders; and the Americans set the price, undoubtedly.

The Hereford has a little coarser grain of beef, and a thicker hide, which explains why they stand the cold better than other breeds. They are, consequently, better rustlers.

The Shorthorn and the Polled Angus makes as ideal a cross as you want to produce. The first cross of these two breeds produces a cross practically true to the Polled Angus type in color, hornlessness, and fleshing qualities. Indeed, I have seen such crosses produce animals that could pass for a purebred Polled Angus; but a second cross shows some characteristics of the Shorthorn.

One other breed mated with the Shorthorn has produced some remarkable results, namely, the Shorthorn-Galloway cross, producing the blue grey. For a beef animal this cross gives produce that everyone wants for feeders, but don't go further than the first cross. So urgent is this demand for feeder blue grey cattle that there is an annual sale of bulls put on each year for white Shorthorn crossing bulls at Carlyle, England, which serves the north of England and the south of Scotland, where the Galloway cattle are predominant. If carried beyond the first cross, the offspring will deteriorate in size.

Among sheep, the great mutton trade in the British Isles is with their crosses; and again all second crosses are slaughtered. Cross-mutton sheep is a way better than any purebred classes I can mention, as purebreds in most classes are too fatty, except the hill breeds.

Among swine, crossing is taboo. I know of none as good as the purebreds.

One of the best Shorthorn families we have was started by crossbreeding this way, namely the Augusta, which is, I think, one of the best families among modern Scotch Shorthorns. Of course, this introduces line breeding, in addition to starting with the cross.—John Graham, Carberry, Manitoba.

Low Producers Don't Pay

IN view of the higher costs of production existing today and the scarcity of labor, low-producing dairy cows in the herd are less profitable than ever. War has unfortunately interfered with the work of cow testing, which was developing slowly, but it is to be hoped that from now on more dairy herd owners will become members of cow testing and herd improvement associations, or will independently weigh and test the milk produced by individual cows in their herds, with a view to weeding out the unprofitable ones.

It is reported from the Provincial Cow Testing Service operated by the Alberta Department of Agriculture, that during the year 1945 there were 89 herd owners who tested 1,178 cows. Of these, 789 completed their lactation periods, or an eight-month milking period, and produced an average of 304 pounds butter-

fat. This, we are told, compares with an average production per cow in Alberta of 165 pounds of butterfat. It is no wonder then, that the department says, "it is quite evident that where herd owners are keeping a record of milk and butterfat production, the breeding and feeding of a dairy herd has been conducted along sound lines, as indicated by an increase of 140 pounds of butterfat per cow over the average of the province."

The dairy branch of the Alberta department also pointed to even more startling differences shown by herds of the winners in the greatest herd average butterfat competition sponsored by the Alberta Dairymen's Association and the Alberta Department of Agriculture. We learn that the average of the four highest producing herds in the cow testing service, comprising more than 70 cows, was nearly 500 pounds of butterfat, or more than three times the provincial average. Cow testing does pay.

Overstocking Means Less Gain

THE larger numbers of cattle in Canada at the present time, mean that ranges and pastures are more heavily stocked than is normally the case. The danger of overstocking pastures is, therefore, greater than under normal conditions, and in seasons or areas where moisture is not sufficient to bring grass along in excellent shape, much overstocking is likely to occur.

Investigations into beef production practices have made clear the fact that if too many cattle graze a given area of grass, the total amount of beef produced per acre will be less than if fewer cattle had been pastured. During the past few years when livestock numbers have been increasing rapidly, moisture conditions have been better than average and there is a danger that this fact will be forgotten by men who are anxious to utilize ranges and pastures to capacity, and who will not have provided that margin of safety for feed reserve, without which the raising of cattle is a gamble.

Early marketing is useful in utilizing pasture to advantage, since it is a means of saving what may perhaps be a limited amount of grass for the breeding herd and young stock. Experts contend that 80 to 90 per cent of the total gain which is made during a grazing season will have been put on cattle by August 15, so that shipment in late August or early September will not affect market weights to any appreciable extent. Early shipment may be an advantage in that later in the season the hazards of early storms must be contended with.

Early shipment also provides for the more uniform distribution of stock on available pasture. Also, if grass looks to be scarce, some supplementary feeding of grain will be wise as soon as the grass begins to cure. A small amount of grain in addition to pasture may easily mean a profit where dependence on waning grass alone may mean a loss.



Sheep shearing must be done quickly and efficiently, and shearing schools will be held in several places throughout the West this spring.

Itching Tails

READING an article in the Farm Workshop Guide on how to protect stable doors from damage by horses with itchy tails, John Morrison, Yellowgrass, Saskatchewan, was moved to suggest another method. He says:

"It occurred to me that barbed wire

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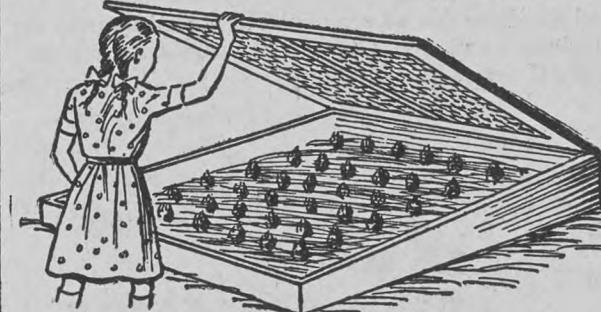
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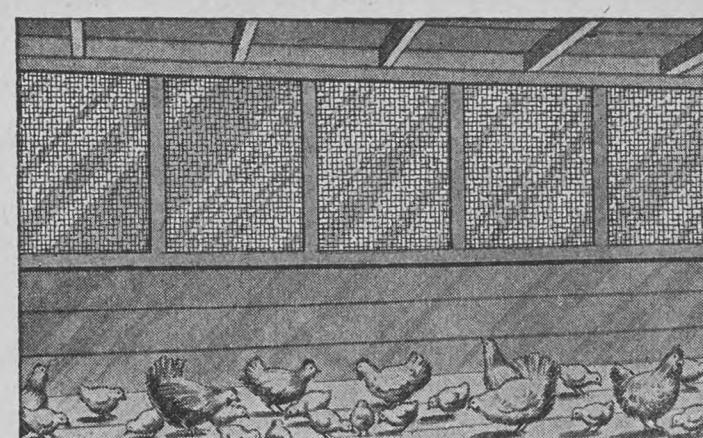
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on the stable door may be good enough for a neighbor's stray horses to ease their itching tails, but here's a better way for a farmer to deal with his own horses. Take a tomato can, put in a little grease, add some gasoline or kero-

sene and mix well. Rub this well into the itching parts a few times and soon the horse will forget his itch, and no longer be a nuisance by breaking doors, hayracks and fence posts. You will also have a better looking horse or colt."

Cattle Breeding Briefs

THERE is nothing very new or startling now available in the fundamentals of breeding. Only during the last 250 years have we begun to put Nature's laws into operation, and as yet we are only fooling around the edges of a great big field.

The breeding of a dairy herd is not a simple matter. A man should live about 250 years to arrive at fairly definite conclusions as to how to go about it. Since we actually have only one working lifetime, we can't afford to fool around with a lot of things the other fellow has done. We might better take the actual results we can observe and start from there. No matter how we go about it, someone else is bound to have a different opinion.

Perfection is an ever-moving point. No one has yet achieved perfection in type, production, vigor, or any other factor. This is true of all breeds and in all countries.

There is one thing about livestock breeding, it can't be controlled by a few. Any individual has the same chance as any other, and there have been more good beasts bred on this continent by the average farmer, than by all the playboy farmers and governments put together.

Making milk and butterfat is a lot harder work than making beef. Fundamentally, there is no difference between a beef and dairy animal, except what they do with what they eat. If a beef animal needs strong legs, strong shoulders and plenty of muscle, it is foolish to say the dairy cow doesn't need these also.

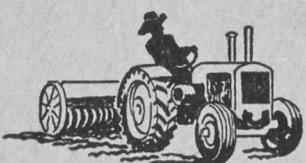
Dairy production is secured by inheritance; and a dairy cow can be strong and at the same time smooth and sweet. A good dairy cow without an udder is beef; and an udder without a cow attached to it is tankage. Quality is much more important than smoothness and length.

Building up the dairy herd starts with the bull. Buy the kind you like. If you find one that has good milking daughters, and if his dam is fundamentally good, buy a brother or a son. I would rather have a bull from an average record cow, that had sisters with similar records, than the son of a cow with one good record.

The average sale catalog doesn't tell all the story about an animal as a rule. Try to get a true estimate of the value of a bull for breeding purposes by getting four sets of figures. First, take the production record of daughters from the



[Guide pho



SEED TIME

in a Year of World Food Famine

The present food famine conditions in Europe and Asia underline the importance of the Canadian Farmers' Spring Seeding Operations . . .

To the farmer, at this time of urgent crisis in humanity's need will go forth from the hearts of millions of men, women and children whose lives will be saved through his thought and labor, a tribute of gratitude and deep thankfulness for his contribution of food production.

War, Pestilence and Famine are age-old and modern foes of civilization which have not yet been outlawed. Amid the ruin and tragedy which they have caused, the one bright ray of hope is the determination in the hearts of men and women of goodwill that these enemies of human progress shall finally be overcome. It is this determination which today as never before spurs the thinking and efforts of statesmen of many countries of which U.N.O. is the united expression.

Meanwhile, it is to the credit of humanity's ever-widening concept of brotherhood that efforts made for dealing with famine conditions are far more effective than ever before. Today, sources of supply and means of food production and distribution exist which make possible the salvaging of millions of lives from famine's deadly clutch.

Swift means of seeding by modern machines enable greatly increased acre-ages to be sown.

Wonderful advances made in improved seed varieties assure increased crop yields.

Marvelous new machines make possible the quick garnering of huge harvests.

The system of grain-handling and transportation which time and experience has evolved enables speedy relief to be brought to stricken famine areas.

Yet, despite all these advances in science, mechanization and the methods of grain handling, *the Farmer remains the factor of primary importance in feeding humanity.*

Without the farmer's careful planning and faithful husbandry the feeding of millions in the present famine-stricken areas could not be accomplished.

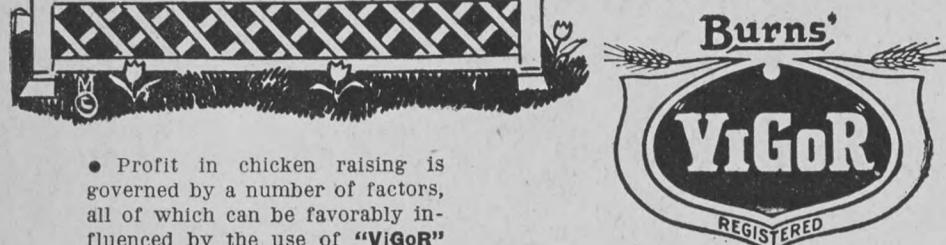
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Profit in chicken raising is governed by a number of factors, all of which can be favorably influenced by the use of "VIGOR" Feeds and Supplements. Greater liveability, more rapid growth, sturdier structure, better egg-laying capacity—all are direct results of the use of "VIGOR." Don't waste another day—order "VIGOR" from your dealer NOW!

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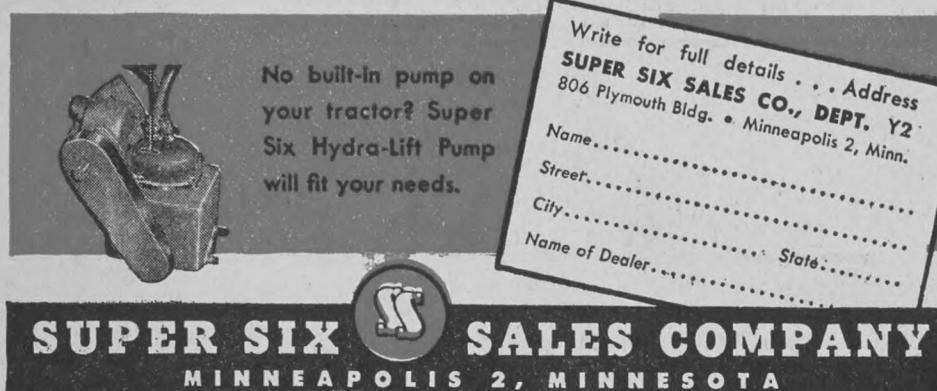


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Super Six gets under the load and lifts! What's more Super Six carries that load—not your tractor! That's why we say:

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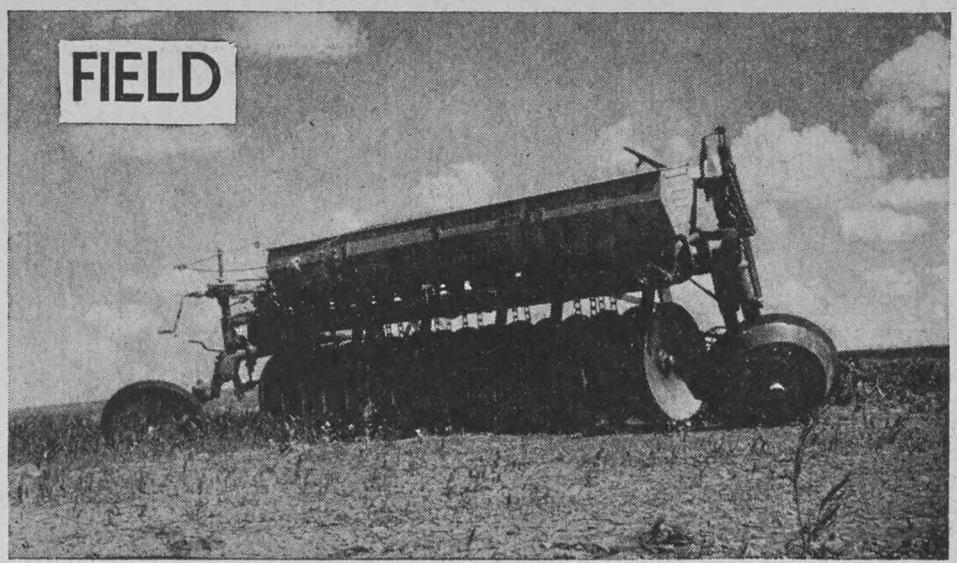


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FIELD



Silhouette of 1946! What will prairie farmers do? Seed substantially more wheat, or maintain summerfallow acreage at about the 1945 level?

More Barley Is Needed

ALL of the best interests of agriculture in the prairie provinces call for an increase in the acreage seeded to barley. The best interests of agriculture are not always determined by the immediate advantages discernable. Permanent stability and farm security generally are the overriding considerations, and these are of a long-time nature.

Barley combines the advantages of a high quality feed crop, an excellent nurse crop for legumes and grasses, and a cash grain crop, whether for feed or malting purposes, for any quantities not needed on the farm.

Fourteen varieties of barley are now deemed sufficient to serve all purposes for barley growing in the three prairie provinces. Six of these, Newal, Titan, Olli, Sanalta, Trebi and O.A.C. 21, are considered to be the selections from available varieties for the province of Alberta. In Saskatchewan, Titan, and Montcalm (two new varieties appearing this year for the first time), Plush, Rex, Regal, Prospect, Newal and Hannchen are the varieties considered to serve the needs of all the province, while in Manitoba, Plush, Sanalta, Wisconsin No. 38, O.A.C. 21, and Mensury (Ottawa 60) are recommended. In very few cases is any single variety recommended for the whole of one province.

Information as to the specific varieties recommended for a particular district is obtainable easily from the agricultural representative or district agriculturist in your district, or from the university, Department of Agriculture, or any experiment station in your province.

Because barley has a tendency to produce a rapid and substantial growth early in the spring, and because some barley varieties ripen early, this crop is generally considered valuable in weed control. Where labor is scarce, the early ripening of barley enables the farm operator to spread his seeding, as well as his harvesting operations over a longer period. The Alberta Department of Agriculture points out that barley excels wheat in point of yield, since average yields for 35 years proved definitely that barley has produced about 14 per cent more grain per acre than wheat, in spite of the fact that wheat is usually grown on the best prepared land, and barley seeded on land that is frequently in poor condition. It is generally recognized that barley is the best fattening grain, while over the years, when marketed through hogs, it nets a more satisfactory profit to the grower than any other grain and produces a better quality bacon.

Power Equipment Needs Care

BEFORE long, thousands of tractors and other pieces of power equipment on western farms will be busily at work. Time lost in making repairs during the busy season is worth much more than during a slack season. Care taken to keep this power equipment operating steadily will pay big dividends.

It is said that tractors and power units on farms should give 10,000 hours of useful work, provided they are kept in good shape, which means greasing and lubricating the tractor as recommended by the manufacturer, keeping the dirt and surplus grease wiped off the machine, checking tire pressures

frequently so that rear tires carry 12 to 16 pounds pressure and front tires 32 to 36 pounds.

Fuel and oil should be free from dirt and water; and the oil and filters should be changed regularly after approximately each 100 hours of work. Using soft water in the radiator, and draining and flushing the radiator with clean water at least twice each season, will help to prevent scale formation and to keep the cooling system operating properly.

The cooling system of a gasoline tractor should be kept at between 160 and 180 degrees; at 190 degrees for a distillate tractor; and from 190 to 205 degrees for a diesel tractor.

Spark plugs will need cleaning every 500 hours, and where plugs need to be replaced, the type recommended by the manufacturer should be used. Spark plug wires need to be kept clean and free from oil and grease since, where the proper valve tappet clearance is not maintained, the valve may burn, in which case a costly repair job is ahead. Clearances should be checked every 200 hours, not only to save repair costs, but to save power.

Transmissions and differentials should be drained every 900 hours, then flushed out and filled with clean oil of the proper weight. The carburetor needs adjustment for maximum efficiency. Tractor engines when idling should run at least at half-throttle, because when a motor idles too slowly, the plugs will fall and the rings may not get sufficient lubrication. When working, the tractor should be loaded to about 75 per cent of its rated horsepower for greater efficiency. Moreover, the motor should warm up before taking a load. After operating on full load, let the engine idle at half-throttle for a few minutes to cool down slowly, so as to avoid warping or twisting the valves.

Finally, unless you are certain that you know more than the manufacturer does about his tractor, follow his instruction book carefully.

A Measurement of Soil Losses

EVERY once in a while someone comments on the fact that the soils of the three prairie provinces are deteriorating in quality and productiveness, owing to losses due to cultivation and failure to replenish such losses through the introduction of systems of crop rotation and the prevention of erosion by wind or water. A co-operative project between the University of Alberta and the Dominion Experimental Farms Service, has led to the analysis of more than 1,000 soil samples from 85 different locations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, for the purposes of determining losses in total organic matter and of nitrogen.

Briefly, this comprehensive check on soil losses has shown that, in the surface six inches in the brown, dark brown and black soils, the loss of organic matter has amounted to about 20 per cent of the original content. This figure was arrived at by adopting the procedure in each case of obtaining soil samples from virgin soils which had never been cultivated, and also from adjacent cultivated soils, which on the average had been cultivated for 22 years. In many cases samples were taken not only from a surface six inches, but at a depth of between six and twelve inches.

As compared with a 20 per cent loss in organic matter, the average percentage loss of nitrogen in the top six inches of soil amounted to 18 per cent on the brown, dark brown and black soils. In the grey soils, the loss of organic matter and nitrogen was higher than in the other soil types, and amounted to about 30 per cent. Losses in the six to twelve inch layer on all types of soils were smaller than in the top six inches.

Expressed in pounds per acre, including both soil layers to a depth of twelve inches from the surface, the average loss of organic matter in the brown soils was 25,566 pounds; in the dark brown zone, 32,289 pounds per acre; in the black soil area, 62,935 pounds; while in the black-transition soils, the loss of organic matter amounted to 92,115 pounds per acre; in the grey-transition, 39,632; and in the grey soils themselves, 28,253. Corresponding figures for losses of nitrogen, as compared with organic matter in a layer of the same depth, are as follows: Brown soil zone, 889 pounds of nitrogen lost per acre; dark brown, 1,208; black, 2,658; black transition, 3,662; grey transition, 2,455, and grey, 1,308.

Not all soils of the same type lost either organic matter or nitrogen to the same extent. In some cases, the losses were as high as 50 per cent of organic matter and 40 per cent of the nitrogen, whereas in some other soils there was no apparent loss. It was calculated that on the average, from one-third to a half of the loss which had occurred from the surface six inches of cultivated soil in the four principal soil zones, was the result of crops grown. The other half to two-thirds of the loss was probably due to erosion in one form or other.

It was significant that soil samples taken at the experimental stations at Lethbridge and Lacombe, and the Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head, from plots where rotations had been followed for many years, indicated that grain and fallow rotations carried on for 25 to 30 years at these stations, all had resulted in very large losses of organic matter and nitrogen. On the other hand, rotations conducted at the same stations, which included legumes, or legumes and grasses, as well as barnyard manure, over a similar period of years, resulted in only small losses of organic matter and nitrogen at Lethbridge, small actual gains at Lacombe, and at Indian Head much smaller losses than from the grain and fallow rotation.

Eradicating Sweet Clover

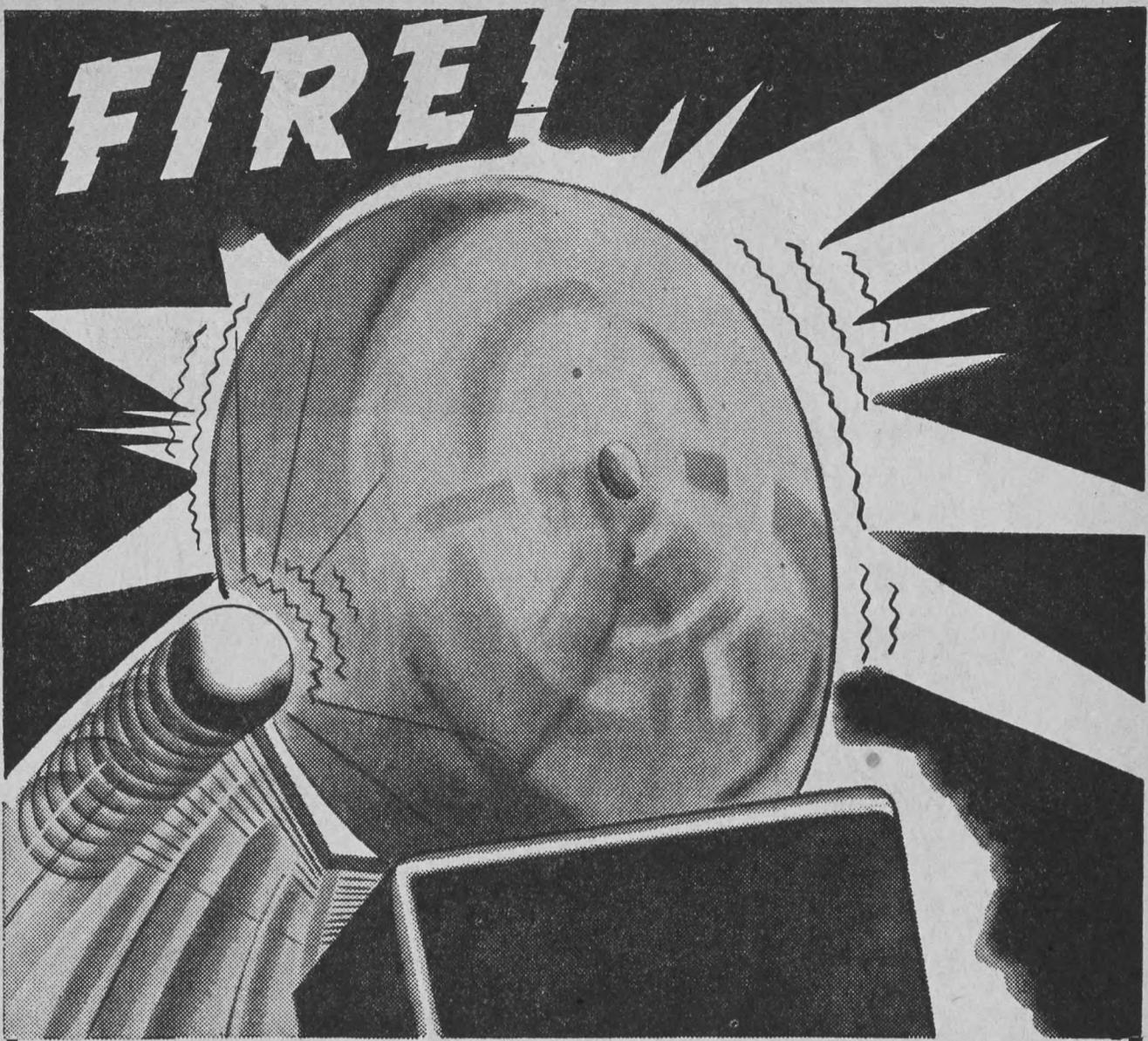
AT the University of Saskatchewan, land after sweet clover is always summerfallowed, by plowing during the first part of June, followed by packing and sufficient cultivation to control weeds. Professor M. Champlin, Department of Field Husbandry, recommends that if the land is to be cropped the first year after sweet clover, it should be plowed, between the 10th and 20th of May, to a depth of four inches. After plowing, it should then be packed and seeded as soon as convenient, preferably to barley or oats.

"The reason that sweet clover sometimes becomes a troublesome weed," says Professor Champlin, "is that some of the seeds fail to grow the year it is sown. These seeds grow the next year, so that when the crop is finished and ready to be plowed up there are always some plants that are in their prime, or in other words, are just one year old. Such plants are not destroyed by disk-ing. Even a one-way is not likely to cut all of them off satisfactorily, so that the best implement to use for this purpose is a good moldboard plow. In my own experience, spring plowing has been a better control than fall plowing."

Points of a Good Farm Lease

FROM Harry G. Anderson, Farm Economist of the North Dakota Agricultural College, comes the statement that the number one characteristic of a good farm lease is that it be in writing, in order that all misunderstandings may be eliminated as far as possible, and that the tenant and landlord may each know that, in the case of unforeseen circumstances, the rights of each family or estate will be protected.

Other features of a good lease are the following: 2, A long-term tenure, with stable and secure rights for the tenant;



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If the walls and ceilings burn, then nothing stops the fire. Unopposed, it leaps like wildfire through the entire building.

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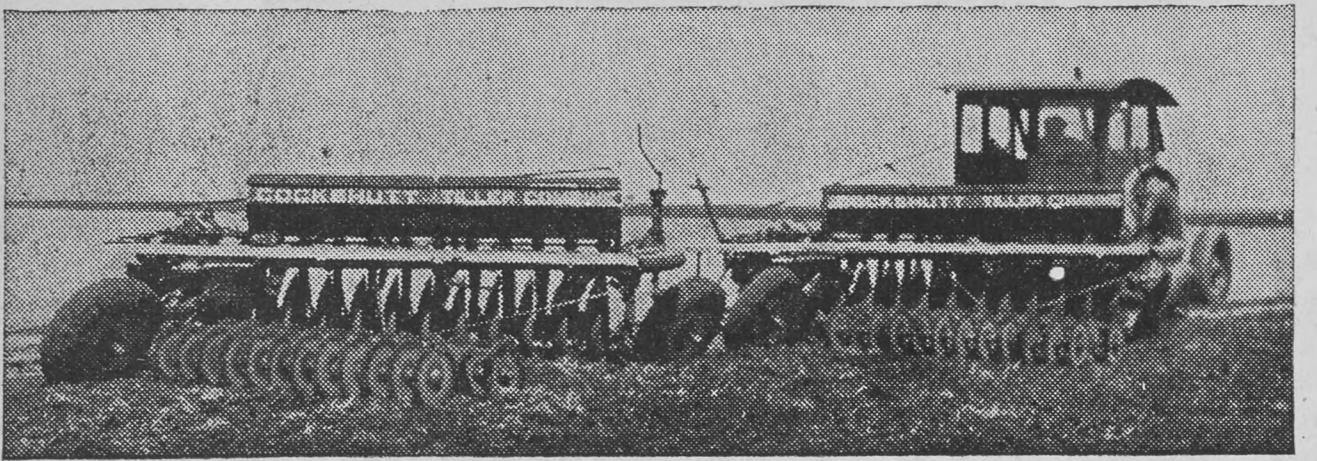


1 *Plow*
2 *Seed*
3 *Pack*
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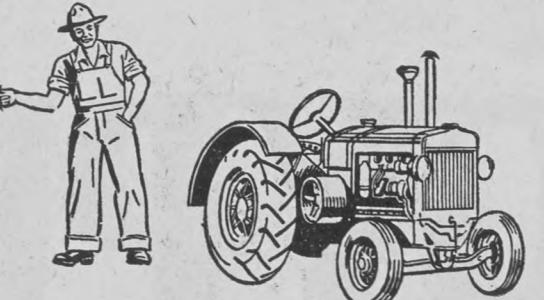
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3, A fair and equitable rental rate, suitable for the type of farming to be followed; 4, A guarantee of compensation from the landlord to the tenant for any improvements made by the tenant, and of which he has not been able to make the full use; 5, Provision that movable improvements may either be paid for at a fair value, or may be removed from the farm by the tenant when he leaves; 6, Compensation to the landlord for property damage beyond usual wear and tear; 7, Provision for minor repairs to fences and buildings by the tenant when the landlord buys the materials; 8, A guarantee that weeds and grass will be mowed about buildings and roadsides by the tenant, and that manure and other refuse will be hauled from the buildings; 9, A listing of farm products to be available to both parties for family use; 10, An outline of the responsibility of each party, and provision for arbitration when honest differences of opinion arise; 11, A clear statement of procedure to be followed when the agreement ends; 12, Outline of methods for dividing any property jointly owned at the expiration of the lease; 13, Provision for at least three months' notice before cancellation of the contract.

Shallow Tillage for Weed Control

FROM the Lacombe Experimental Station in Alberta comes the conclusion that shallow tillage is on the whole more efficient in controlling weeds than deep tillage. This conclusion is made logical by the fact that most of the trouble from weeds is caused by the weed seeds at or near the surface, or scattered through the upper two or three inches of soil. Shallow tillage makes conditions that are favorable for the germination of weed seeds, which, in turn, makes it possible to see where the weeds are and destroy them in larger numbers within a given period and also at a lower cost than is possible with deep tillage.

Plowing tends to bury the weeds of the current season so deeply that they will not germinate until brought nearer to the surface, with the result that they usually lie dormant until the land is again plowed. The recommendation from Lacombe is that a combination of shallow tillage, delayed seeding, and the use of an early maturing variety of grain makes it possible to germinate and destroy two or three normal crops of weeds before the crop is seeded. "Shallow tillage after seeding," we are told, "will destroy weed seedlings and is an effective weed control practice. If land is worked three or four days after seeding with a rod or cable weeder, or with a cultivator or harrow, the grain which is just starting to germinate will not be damaged, but the weed seedlings will be destroyed. The grain will have three or four days' start on the weeds, and as a consequence will smother them more effectively."

It is also suggested from Lacombe that better summerfalls can be maintained at approximately one-half the expense where shallow tillage is practised. Proper use of the one-way cultivator and the rod weeder makes it possible to maintain a trash cover, and control both annual and perennial weeds with greater efficiency and economy than if the plow is used.

Watch The New Weeds

A TIMELY note is entered by officials of the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, in connection with the introduction of new varieties of grain and forage plants to the southwestern portion of Saskatchewan. What is said of that part of the prairies also applies to any other farming area where new crops are tried out and new varieties brought in from other districts.

Where high-grade seed is used, the danger of introducing new and noxious weeds is very limited. Few farmers, however, make a practice of seeding first generation seed which permits very few weed seeds in the grade. Later generations of registered seed and certified seed grades do permit small quantities of weed seeds, so that there is always the possibility of the introduction of new weeds from this source, as well as by various other means, such as the distribution of seed by birds. Whatever the causes, pernicious perennial weeds have become firmly established in some districts before they

have been recognized, or before preventive measures have been taken. Such weeds, for instance, are leafy spurge, Russian knapweed, field bindweed, several kinds of hoary cress, bladder campion and wild toadflax. All of these perennial weeds spread by seeds and by roots, which means that they are very difficult and costly to eradicate, unless eradication is begun as soon as the first plants are noticed.

Swift Current officials point out that some of the native prairie plants can become very persistent weeds under the conditions brought about by cultivation. Wild morning glory, for example, which with the dogbane grows along creek banks and coolies; poverty weed, which grows on the margins of sloughs; the skeleton weed of the dry upland prairie; and the milkweed of the swales, are all mentioned as likely to be very troublesome and annoying if introduced into crop land. Where irrigation is practised the soil is more moist and such weeds as are less drought-resistant, such as sowthistle, wild oats, Canada thistle, water hemlock, docks and smartweed may be introduced into previously semi-arid and dry soils.

For these reasons, it is advisable wherever any new plant is found of which the name is not known, that samples should be pulled, including the whole plant if possible, and sent to the nearest Dominion experimental station for identification. Pull up or dig the whole plant, shake the soil from the roots, roll roots and plant well in a newspaper, tie it firmly, and send it in to the experimental station, or to your provincial university, with an accompanying letter. The letter should be separate from the weed parcel, but the name and address of the sender should always be included in the parcel.

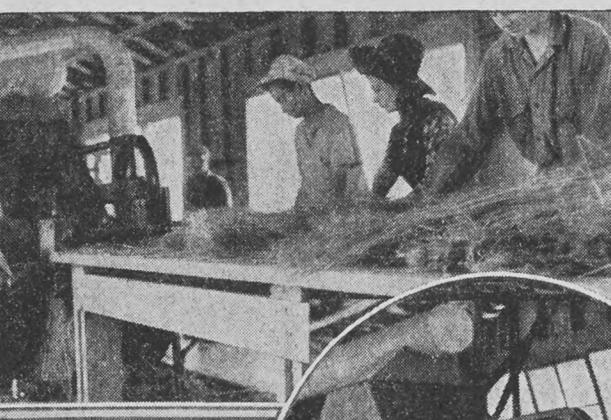
Heavier Seedings With Formalin

HEAVIER seedings of Thatcher and Regent wheat, showing 25 to 30 per cent embryo injury after machine threshing, seem to be called for if such seed is treated with formalin. Tests made with these two varieties in 1945 and reported to the Manitoba Agronomists' Conference, by A. B. Brown, Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Winnipeg, indicated that a loss of eight bushels per acre in yield as a result of the formalin treatment occurred when wheat was seeded at three-quarter bushels per acre. When seeded at 1 1/4 bushels per acre, reduction from the formalin treatment was five bushels per acre; but at 1 1/4 bushels per acre seeding rate, the reduction was not significant.

On the other hand, seed treated with ceresan, and that untreated, showed equal yields at all rates of seeding.

Rotation Will Control Wild Oats

WILD oats are a very bad and pernicious weed over large areas in western Canada. They can be almost eliminated according to the results of rotation experiments at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon, Manitoba, and the Dominion Experimental Station at Lacombe, Alberta. At these stations, it has been found that the in-



[Ewing photos.]



2.

1. After retting and drying, fibre flax straw is put through the scutching machine shown here. 2. Scutched flax, showing a pile of fibre which has been separated from the remainder of the straw.

roduction of two or more years of hay into the ordinary grain growing rotation will pretty well do away with the wild oats.

At both institutions, straight grain-growing rotations are polluted with wild oats, but where the mixed farming rotations are used, crops are practically free of this weed. We are told that at Brandon, an area of 14 acres adjoining the wild-oat-infested grain rotation, has been practically free from wild oats for the past ten years. At Lacombe, the three-year rotation of grain and fallow is badly infested, but the mixed-farming rotations are practically free of wild oats.

On some farms, the crops of grain are docked up to 20 and 30 per cent for wild oats, and this dockage is only a part of the total loss. There is also the loss in yield of several bushels per acre, which results from delayed spring seeding when attempts are made to kill a crop of wild oats before a crop is seeded.

Government Grain Announcement

SUPPLEMENTING the nine-point program for expediting wheat shipments to Europe announced by Prime Minister Mackenzie King on March 17, the Hon. J. A. MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced in the House of Commons on March 26, that farmers may, between April 1 and June 30 this year, deliver wheat held on farms, and receive in turn grain tickets which may be cashed at any time between now and the end of 1948. No storage will be charged against the farmer for wheat delivered in this way.

The minister said it was hoped to increase shipments over the quantities planned for the present crop year, but "to accomplish this, it will be necessary for producers in western Canada to deliver promptly the remaining farm surpluses of wheat. There is some wheat being held on farms in western Canada, principally due to the present levels of income tax, combined with the uncertainty of yields from the new crop to be harvested in 1946.

"There may be a few days' delay in getting the new emergency receipt forms into the hands of the elevator companies, but producers need not delay their wheat deliveries on this account. They may continue to deliver, taking tickets for later conversion into emergency wheat receipts."

The minister also announced a guaranteed minimum barley price of 60 cents per bushel for top grades, and 45 cents for No. 2 C.W. oats, both basis Fort William. For next year, the advance equalization payments for oats and barley will remain as at present, 10 cents per bushel on oats at the time of delivery, and 15 cents per bushel on barley, with an additional premium up to five cents per bushel for malting barley.

As from August 1, the guaranteed price of No. 1 C.W. flax seed will be raised from \$2.75 to \$3.25 per bushel, basis Fort William, Port Arthur, or Vancouver, and the new price will apply throughout the 1946-47 crop year. A substantially larger acreage of flax seed is desired this year.

The 1946-47 rape seed price will be six cents per pound for top grades, basis country shipping points, and five cents per pound for top grade of sunflower seed, basis country shipping points.

(Original on file)

Sunnyside Poultry Farm,
St. Stephen, N.B.

The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Limited,
Saint John, N.B.

Dear Sir:

I have been keeping poultry for the last eighteen years with more or less success and have used all the well known brands of feeds, and some not so well known. For the past two years, I have been feeding Miracle feeds almost exclusively with excellent results. Mortality in my flock has been less than one percent since I started using your feeds and my egg production has been wonderful.

Yours sincerely,

A. L.

Miracle Laying Mash increases egg production because it contains the highest quality "egg making" ingredients scientifically blended in exact proportions to produce more top grade eggs per laying hen at lowest feed cost.

If you have plenty of farm grain, make your own laying mash by using Miracle Laying Mash Supplement.

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MAXIMUM RESULTS . . . AT MINIMUM COST

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Whether it's "making" hay—grain or vegetables, "Elephant" Brand Fertilizer increases your yield, raises quality, and speeds up growth.

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Great quantities have been requisitioned for overseas application, to help relieve food shortage conditions. Hence, the present shortage. But continue to specify



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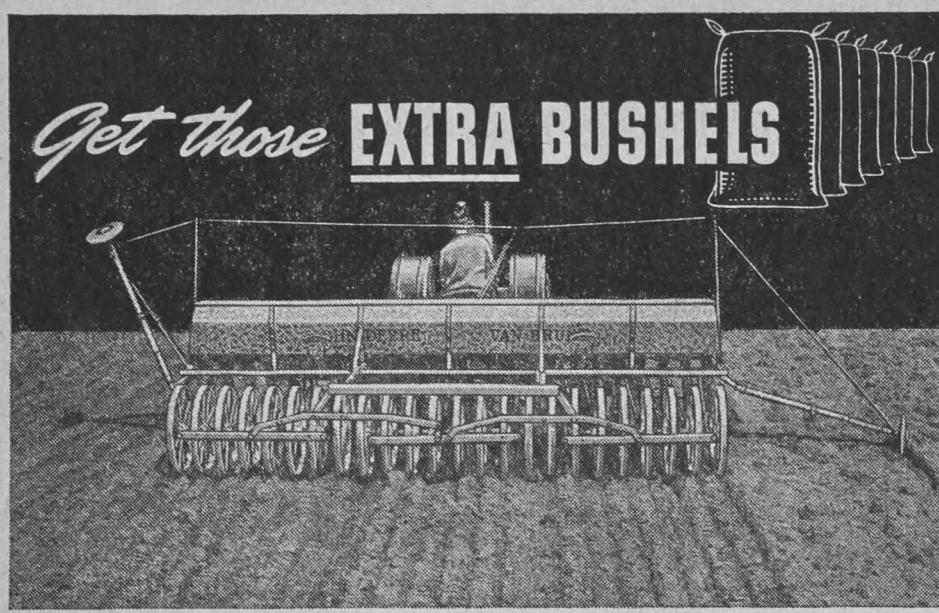
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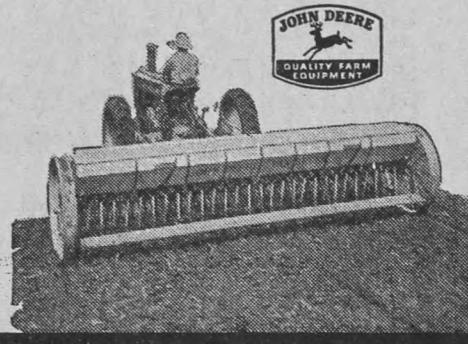


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Don't wish your new drill had been a Van Brunt—make sure it is by seeing your John Deere dealer now. There is a type for every soil—a size for every farm.

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- Below—John Deere-Van Brunt Model "EE" Drill.
- Regular features of these drills include the famous adjustable-gate, fluted force-feeds; the big-capacity, non-sag, galvanized steel box; your choice of furrow openers, single- or double-disk, shoe, hoe, or deep-furrow; hard-chilled disk bearings; power lift; and screw-type depth regulator.



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BECAUSE IT'S ENGINEERED FOR YOUR JOB

Various Farm Devices

From a foot scraper to a wagon from auto parts

Uses for Horseshoes

Heat the shoe in the fire until it is cherry red, then straighten and flatten it slightly, and bend the ends nearly at right angles. Then take a rectangular gallon oil or varnish can, cut out one side, fill it with concrete, and stick the

HORSESHOE SHAPED BLOCK OF CEMENT AS SHOWN



USE 1 GAL OIL CAN FOR FORM TO MAKE BLOCK

ends of the straightened shoe well down into the concrete, working and tamping the concrete closely around it. When well cured, you have a foot scraper that is quite effective in removing mud and will last indefinitely.

Old horseshoes can be nailed to stable posts for harness hooks, set ends down in concrete granary floors for bolting the lower ends of the studding, nailed or bolted to gate posts to serve as hinges, hooks for fastening gate latches, and so on.—I.W.D.

Mud Scraper

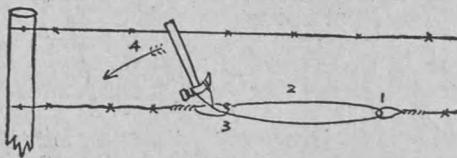
If you have an old skate lying around you have an excellent boot scraper al-



ready manufactured. Just turn it upside down and tack it on the outside step and it is there ready for business.

Mending Broken Wire

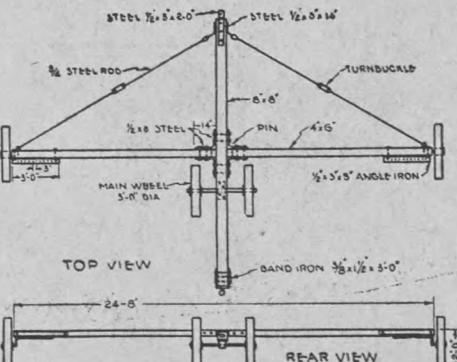
Make a loop on both ends of the broken wires. Then take a piece of soft baling wire or No. 9 gauge and fasten to it to loop (3), pass it through loop (1) and back through (3). Take a hammer and catch the end of the patching wire



with the claws and then twist the hammer around so that the wire comes over the neck of the hammer and down through loop (3). Now turn the handle away from the break as shown by the arrow and keep on turning until the wire is as tight as wanted. Then turn the handle back and wrap the end of the wire around the splice. Allow 14 or 16 inches between loops to take up the slack of the wires.

Three-Implement Hitch

A three-implement hitch developed by the Montana agricultural engineering department. With the present short-



age of manpower, and because of high operating costs, it is important for every farm operator to make sure his tractor is pulling close to its rated load. However, do not overload the tractor and cause unnecessary wear.

Changing Tone of Horn

If you don't like the tone of your auto horn, you can change it by the method shown. A little experimenting will be required to get just the right length of tubing.

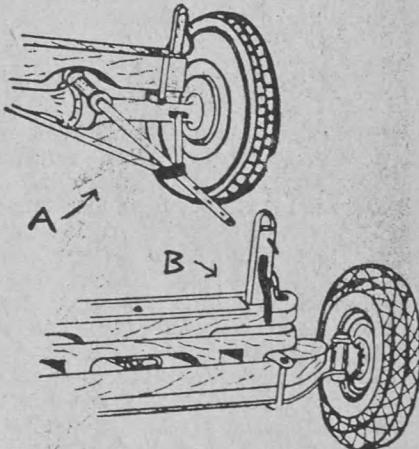


Wagon From Auto Parts

This very serviceable wagon and four-wheel trailer from the front axle of an old car and the rear end of a Model T truck. It will carry five tons, yet can be pulled around the farm yard easily by one man.

Take the worm and ring gears out of the rear axle housing, insert a piece of old 2½-inch well pipe about seven feet long with half a coupling left on the end, and make fast with housing cap. Fit a 4x6, four feet long, over rear housing so as to rest on spring shackles. Fasten to shackles with 9/16-inch U-bolts which extend one inch above the 4x4, and fasten stake holders made from Model T frame irons under the clip for the U-bolts.

For the front axle, use the front axle of an old heavy car and weld the spindle straight and solid. Take the front truck of an ordinary wagon, saw off the old skeins, and fit on top of the car axle. Clip it to the axle with U-bolts where the car springs were fas-

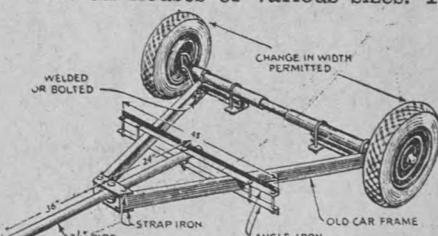


tened. Take a piece of two-inch pipe five feet long, insert flat pieces of steel in one end for reinforcement, flatten and round that end, and have hole drilled for kingpin. The flat steel reinforcement should be welded in place after the front end of the two-inch pipe has been flattened and rounded. Insert in front truck for reach, extending back to telescope into rear reach pipe. Bore holes for reach pin to adjust wagon length.

The front axle should be from a heavy car with tires of a size easily available. If they are 32 by six-inch tires, they will be interchangeable with the rear ones. With large tires front and rear, the wagon will carry loads easily out of spongy spots and soft and muddy fields where an ordinary wagon cannot go.—I.W.D.

Moving Brooder & Farrowing Houses

Here is a homemade trailer for moving brooder and farrowing houses. The parts are adjustable so the trailer can be used on houses of various sizes. To



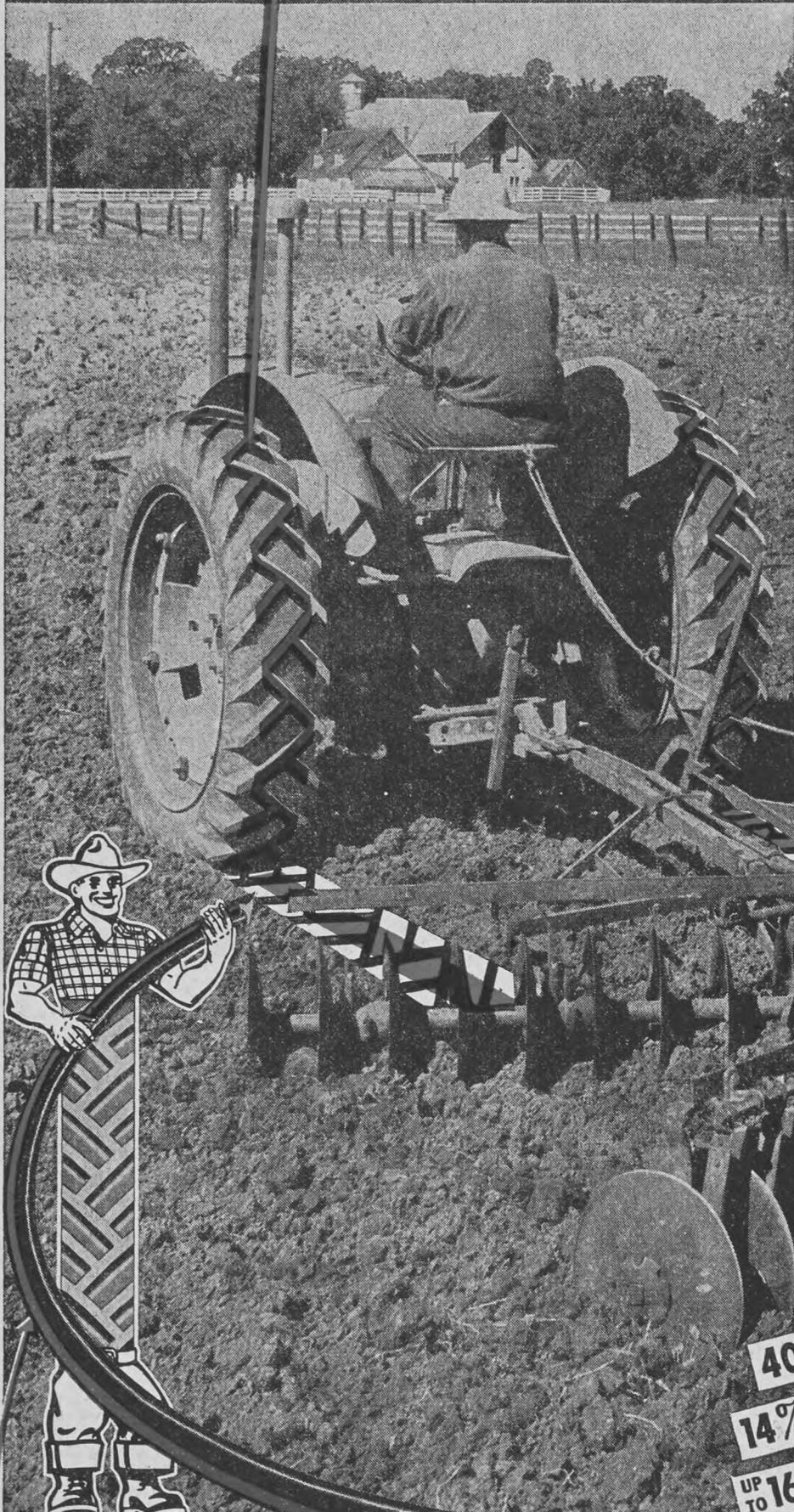
load a house on to the trailer you'll need a jack and some large blocks. Put the jack in the middle of the house, raise one end and set blocks under corners. Raise other end but instead of putting blocks under the corners, put them near the centre so that house will be almost balanced. Run the trailer under the house, tongue first and jack to lift so blocks can be removed and unload the house, just reverse procedure.

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Besides giving Firestone Ground Grips a "Center Bite," connected traction bars also insure better cleaning. There are no broken-bar, trash-catching pockets such as you see on ordinary tires. The connected bars are stronger, too, because they are triple-braced. This added strength increases tread life.

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*Area in red shows the "Center Bite" traction zone, not found in other tires because of Firestone's exclusive patent rights.

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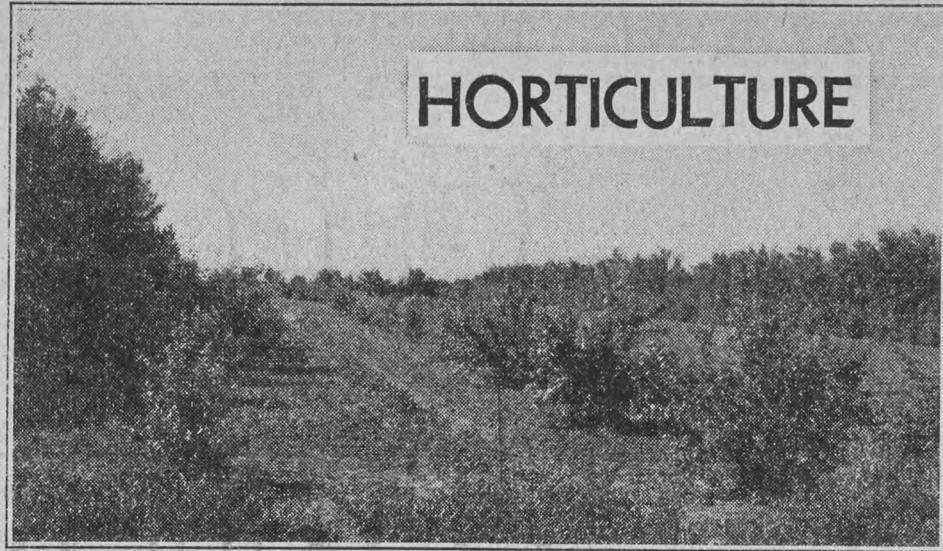
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HORTICULTURE

*(Guide photo.
This thrifty, well-sheltered young orchard was photographed two years ago on the farm of R. A. Johnson, Beadle, Sask., and is one of several similarly sheltered plots adjacent to the farmstead.)*

Spring Pruning of Fruits

SPRING is usually the best time for pruning fruits, generally speaking. Most of our fruits require little pruning, mostly cutting back. We prune trees to make them develop the way we want to have the full-grown tree. This does not mean that we can make sandcherries grow like Assiniboine plums, but rather the best kind of bush or tree that produces the best fruit.

In pruning sandcherry plums, it is best to cut back each season's growth around 60 per cent. That will keep them in a small, compact bush; cut some wood out when they get too thick or too close to the soil. When budded on sandcherry roots, it is well to remember those roots do not travel all over your garden, like wild plum roots, and cannot feed too large a top. It also is the reason why sandcherries do well for three or four years, then kill back or produce inferior fruits. They need thinning out and cutting back. These cherries and hybrids also like lots of humus in a light, warm soil. Give them lots of well-rotted manure—like berries.

We find here, with our exposed places on the open prairie, that it is best to cut most fruits back quite hard—50 per cent in wet seasons—especially most of our plums. Pembina is inclined to throw out three main shoots, and unless cut back the first two or three years, spreads all over your garden. Varieties like Grenville and Fiebing, which throw such large rank shoots that break badly in our winds, are better nipped back two or three times during the growing season. This is done with thumb and finger and only takes a few moments.

Most Manitoba plums need little pruning—just cutting back the longer shoots. When they grow over three feet, they bend over and spread over quite a large area. Assiniboine and Dandy are nice upright growers and require less cutting back, although such heavy fruiters as Dandy and Bounty will break badly

when loaded with fruit, if not supported and the bush kept fairly solid.

Most hybrid plums are rank growers and need watching. One Ojibway seedling from Morden, M 29A-18, grows almost like a grapevine and can be trained along a three or four strand fence to make a hedge, fine for bordering a walk or training over a gateway or trellis.

Apples, when cut well back the first two or three years, require little pruning, but keep your trees down, compact. From 12 to 14 feet is as high as a tree should be on the open prairie. So many things can happen to trees when they get any size, for even if our trees seem to stand up to our more severe winters, they are more or less damaged and tend to break down after 12 to 15 years.

Anyone wanting to do a little propagating or changing a poor variety into a good one this spring, should do it as soon as sap starts to rise. In this climate, grafting above the ground level is not at all satisfactory, the air is too dry to get a really good catch, and when the material is two inches or over, never makes a solid join, breaks away when fruiting, or in our strong winds. In fact I would advise anyone on the prairies to forget about all grafting and just use the budding method. It is so much simpler and easier, and only needs a good sharp pocket knife and some store twine. Set buds in last year's growth where the wood is $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thick, using enough buds to make a nice head on the tree, later cutting the ends back to a bud. This is much more satisfactory than cutting off the tree six inches above ground and grafting in a couple of shoots, or cutting off large limbs and grafting. The easily done shield-budding is best, or Jones-budding if the sap is not running freely. This only applies to prairie conditions, and not to Ontario or B.C., where grafting is quite satisfactory. — John Lloyd, Adanac, Sask.

Why I Plant a Garden

By WM. BLEASDELL CAMERON

WHY does anybody plant a garden?

Perhaps the chief reason is this: What differentiates man from the beasts mainly is intellect. Squirrels store nuts against the coming winter; bees, honey; muskrats and beavers, bark and grass. These animals and insects show a measure of intelligence, providing food when it is plentiful, for a season nature tells them is ahead when it will be unobtainable. But, rightly or wrongly, we do not credit them with the power of reasoning, thought; instead, we name the quality that prompts them to make this provision, instinct. These lower types of life take their food where they find it, for sustenance is the only existence of which they have any perception. Only man grows the major part of what he eats, or envisions a future state.

And here is a significant thing. Growing things is a form of creation. All of us, we may suppose, even the sceptics, acknowledge a Creator. It is impossible to imagine anything creating itself—to conceive of something developing from nothing. To start growth, we must have a germ. If, as we are told and some at least believe, man is made in the image

of the Creator, then he doubtless partakes in some degree of the nature of that Creator. Hence his desire to himself create.

The artist, the mechanic, the gardener—all find supreme pleasure in expressing that innate creative impulse in terms of beauty, in watching the gradual evolution of a picture, a building, a plant, under the infinite care and manipulation of hand and brain, into finished forms of loveliness and usefulness.

I plant a garden because of this inherent desire to create something beautiful and useful. I love the warm, fecund earth and like to be close to it. Exercise in the sun and the open air is both wholesome and healthful. All the world acknowledges that there is nothing more beautiful than flowers, no odors so entrancing as are those flowing from their petals. No fruits or vegetables are so delicious as those grown by oneself in one's own garden.

Finally, gardening is a restful change from regular tasks, one of the most delightful of recreations and one of which one does not tire.

Salute to the gardener!

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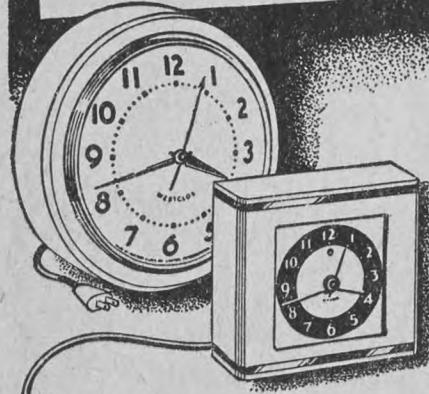
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Three Species of Larch

BECAUSE of the fact that larches are particularly attractive in early summer, and again in early fall, and also because several species of larch appear to be adapted to the climatic conditions of the prairie provinces, certain of these species deserve to be better known. John Walker, Superintendent of the Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, Saskatchewan, calls attention to the fact that, not only are larches ornamental trees, but that they have a valuable place in the farm woodlot for fuel wood, posts and poles.

Native larch or tamarack, at the Forest Nursery Station, has grown to a height of 37 feet in 37 years, and the average diameter at breast height, is between 5 1/2 and 6 inches. The branches of this species are short and horizontal, so that the tree forms a narrow, pyramidal head. This species is extremely hardy, and under favorable conditions, will grow to a height of about 65 feet.

The Siberian larch has reached a height of 50 feet at Indian Head, during the same period, and owing to the fact that the branches are short and point upward, the tree is more suitable for close planting. So far it appears to be quite hardy under prairie conditions, and the needles are a soft, bright green in color, as compared with the bluish-green color of the native larch.

The European larch has reached about the same height as the Siberian larch at Indian Head, although its trunk diameter at breast height is slightly larger than either of the other two species. The branches are quite slender, the needles a bright green and a little shorter than those of the other two species. The trunks, however, are not quite as straight and upright as those of the Siberian larch, and the percentage of trees planted which survived not quite as high.

Assiniboine Orchard

THOMAS SCAIFE, Marquette, Manitoba, says that, since his orchard is located along the Assiniboine river on the south side, where it is sheltered by a natural shelterbelt of maple, ash and elm trees, he calls it Assiniboine Orchard.

"In this orchard," he says, "I have many varieties of apples, plums and cherries; some pears fruited for the first time and they were of fair quality; some apricots came in blossom for the first time, but the cold spring of 1945 prevented them from setting fruit."

Mr. Scaife reports that he has a good market for his fruit right in the neighborhood. He does quite a bit of root and top grafting each spring, and has one novelty plum tree with ten different varieties of plums and cherries grafted on it.

Mr. Scaife also interests us greatly when he says he has been a Guide subscriber for a good many years, having "got a lot of my information and help through The Country Guide when the late George F. Chipman was editor. My orchard started from a very small beginning and has been increasing in size and quality ever since. Here is wishing The Country Guide every success."

Almey Rosybloom Crab

A NEW rosybloom crab apple has been named at the Morden Station after J. R. Almey, one-time horticulturist of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, and now for many years, horticulturist for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and long associated with the Manitoba Horticultural Association. Mr. Almey is also one of Canada's most prominent breeders of gladioli.

The Almey crab apple takes its place in a long list of rosybloom crabs, easily recognized by their characteristic, profuse red bloom, and by their value for ornamental purposes. Quite a large number of the named rosybloom varieties have been introduced by the Dominion Experimental Farms Service, many of them from crosses made at Ottawa, and named after Canadian lakes. A number of rosybloom varieties have also been introduced by the experiment station at Brookings, South Dakota.

The description of Almey, as provided from Morden, is as follows:

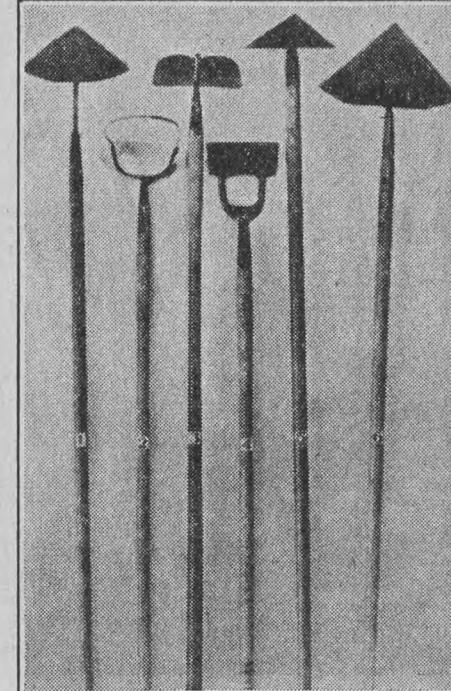
"The tree is tall, rounded, a vigorous grower, healthy, hardy and floriferous. The bloom is a commanding bright

red, the individual flower, opening from a deep carmine bud, is large, slightly concave, a glistening red except at the base of each petal, which is white, forming a five-sided star. The color is retained more fully than most rosyblooms. Fruits are small, oval, dull maroon, persistent."

Garden Soil Needs Humus

HUMUS is a very important constituent of soil for either garden or orchard. It is partially decomposed organic matter such as leaf mold, barnyard manure, sod that has been turned under, or any other material of the kind. When humus is properly incorporated into the soil, it has several functions from the standpoint of plant growth. It opens up heavy clay soils, makes them easier to work and less inclined to be sticky and lumpy or to bake. With light soils it adds body, and in soils of all kinds it increases the ability to hold water. Barnyard manure as a fertilizing material has the advantage in addition to the actual fertilizing constituents it contains, of possessing an important humus value.

Humus, of course, must be constantly renewed in the soil, because, as it becomes completely decomposed, it tends to disappear, as the result of the action of bacteria, earthworms, and constant



A good gardener is worthy of his tools. Here are several types of hoes and the enthusiastic gardener will want two and possibly three.

cultivation. In most dark soils, humus is most cheaply renewed by the use of cover crops plowed down as green manuring crops.

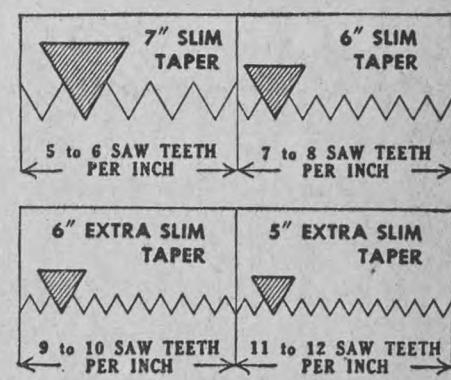
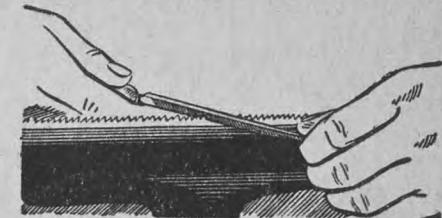
Most farm gardens are insufficiently supplied with humus and fertilizer to really make first class gardens yielding large crops. Intensive garden cropping requires a great deal of available plant food. Where good, well-rotted barnyard manure is available, close to 20 tons per acre can be applied to advantage. If the manure is fairly strawy, decomposition will be slower, and the garden may need some commercial fertilizer in addition. A 4-8-10 fertilizer is satisfactory for most crops, and it may either be worked into the soil before planting in the spring, or may be applied as a side dressing along the rows, but not closer than three inches to the growing plant. Some gardeners apply as high as 2,000 pounds of commercial fertilizer per acre. If the method of side dressing is used, it is better to apply several light dressings during the season.

The Morden Tomato

THE Dominion experimental station at Morden has named its first vegetable variety. It is the Morden tomato, which developed as a sport, or mutation, from a cross between Bristol and Round Smooth, made in 1932.

Morden is one of the golden tomatoes. It is six days earlier than Mingold, a Minnesota variety. The color is somewhat deeper gold in skin color, the plant grows about 12 inches in height and 30 inches in diameter, and the fruit which weighs on the average about 3.9 ounces, measures about 2 by 2 1/2 inches.

KNOW YOUR SAW FILES



MUCH of the success in saw filing comes from the ability to select *The right file for the job*. There are many triangular files for sharpening or reshaping the teeth of handsaws and other saws having 60-degree or wider tooth angle—such as Taper, Slim Taper, Extra Slim Taper. Four of the more popular sizes are indicated in the broad general guide above.

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Excellent, too, for your pulpwood and crosscut saws, are Black Diamond Websaw, Round Gulleting, Cantsaw, B.C. Special Crosscut and Mill Files. *Free instructional sheet on saw filing.*

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The photograph above and the airplane-view at the right were taken last fall. At this display and demonstration International Harvester showed editors and educators the machines this company has been making ready for the postwar betterment of the Canadian farm.

THIS SEASON, for the first time in a period of years, the farmer begins his spring work in time of peace.

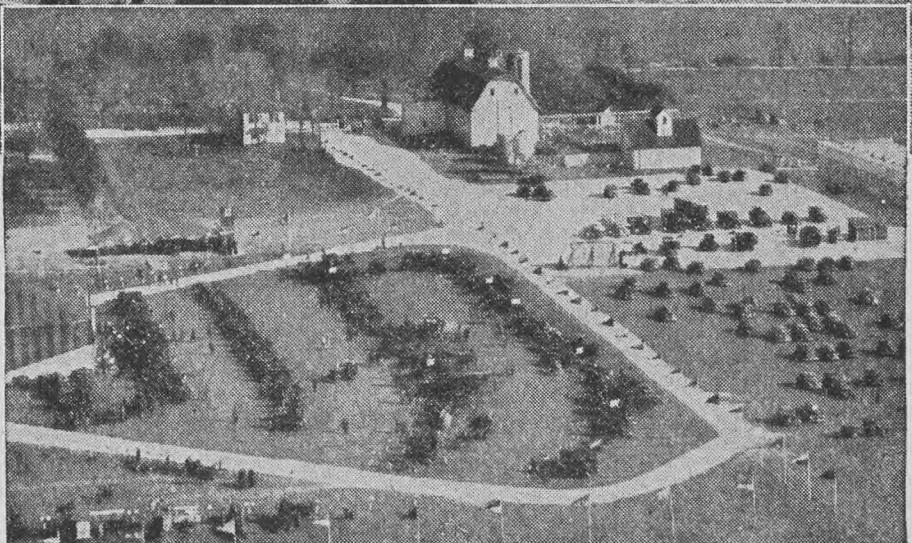
Can he be sure of getting his new tractor this spring — and the new, more efficient equipment he has been promised "at the close of the war"? No — he cannot be sure. It will take time to build the equipment and to fill the great demand in every dealer's community.

But you can bank on one thing: International Harvester, its many factories and the dealers who sell and service "IH" products, are bending every effort to get every possible new tractor and machine out to the farms and onto the fields.

Farmall Tractors, "A," "B," "H" and "M"; a great variety of Farmall Equipment; McCor-

mick - Deering tillage, planting and cultivating tools for all sections; machines for haying; and grain and corn harvesting equipment will be turned out in record volume, depending on labor and material availability. *But bear in mind that many of the new products you read about in the farm papers will take many months to build in quantity.*

Our advice is that you keep in close contact with your International Harvester dealer. He is every bit as eager to get the new equipment from us as you are to get it from him.



A Few Comments from Visitors at Harvester's Demonstration

"I am especially pleased with the attention you are giving to family-size farms for I sincerely believe this is our most important unit." —From a farm paper editor.

"The true richness still rises from the soil, and the demonstration I witnessed yesterday offers hope and inspiration for the future of our nation." —From a bank president.

"Our impression is that Harvester is building what it thinks the farmer wants, and it has men out finding out what is wanted. The Company is not saying: 'This is what we build, and you can take it or leave it.' " —From the editor of a farm equipment trade journal.

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A Farmer's Hobby

By KERRY WOOD

If you've ever found an Indian arrowhead, then you and Hugh Bower of Red Deer, Alberta, have shared a thrill in common. Mr. Bower is central Alberta's most noted collector of Indian relics, an absorbing hobby practised whenever Hugh can snatch an evening half-hour or a Sunday afternoon away from farm duties.

At his comfortable farm home a mile south of Red Deer where he operates a successful stock and grain farm, a very large collection of relics is willingly shown to anyone interested in the enduring handiwork left by stone-age man on this part of the continent. There are upwards of four hundred separate items, ranging all the way from tiny and perfectly formed "bird-arrow" heads of flint and obsidian to large and crude spear points of the same material, with dozens of stone skinning knives, fleshing tools, stone axes and tomahawk heads, boring stones and needle makers, arrow shaft smoothers, heavy stone mallets or hammers which are commonly called "pemmican-pounds," fragments of pottery with a trace of design etched on them and the remnants of some old meal still encrusted on the clay—"I guess some of those old-time squaws didn't like dishwashing any better than modern women," Mr. Bower laughs. The collection has taken years to gather and represents many happy hours spent afield looking for trophies.

When first asked about this fascinating hobby, Mr. Bower promptly invited the writer to accompany him on an actual hunt for specimens. Three of us finally got together one Sunday afternoon in August and Mr. Bower drove to Horn Hill, a well known farm district twelve miles southeast of Red Deer.

"At Horn Hill there's a summerfallow field I've had my eye on for some time," he confided during the drive. "That hard rain last week should have put the field in good shape for a hunt."

He went on to explain that most of his finds have been made on summerfallow lands, such fields being particularly productive for his hobby a few days after a heavy rain or following an especially strong wind. Rain washes the soil away from stone near the surface, while a wind drifts the soil and leaves the stones exposed.

George Russell and myself asked how many trips were needed to produce a relic, and Mr. Bower promptly laughed. "I find relics almost every trip," he declared. He qualified this by saying that he had already put in his trial and error learning period and now he usually worked fields where he was positive there was a good chance of finding specimens. For instance, there is a series of hills running through this central Alberta region starting with the Sunset and Medicine Lodge Hills near Bentley, the View Hill near Sylvan Lake, the Poplar Ridge west of Red Deer, and the Divide chain of hills east of town of which Horn Hill can be considered an extension. Hugh Bower has found relics on each of the hills named and returns year after year to the heights to look over new summerfallow. Apparently the Indians favored heights of land for both camping and hunting grounds during centuries of life here before the coming of the whites, and today, Mr. Bower favors hilltops and slopes as his best spots to find relics of the redmen.

"You have to picture the land as it was in those by-gone days," he stated.

"Probably the Indians liked to camp on a hilltop during the summertime to get out of the way of flies and mosquitoes that would be infesting the densely wooded hollows. Possibly there was another reason: maybe they wanted to be in a position where they could keep an eye peeled on the surrounding country for the appearance of game, or even of enemies. Perhaps the lookout scouts, perched there on a hilltop and acting as sentinels, whiled away the time they were on lookout duty by working on an arrowhead or a palm-knife. Anyway, in this region most of my relics have been picked up on the hills."

When we left the car and climbed the slope at Horn Hill to one of the summerfallow fields he had selected for our afternoon hunt, Mr. Bower instructed us to keep watching for "chips." Chips are little fragments of stone flaked off by a long-dead Indian craftsman who had been making some tool or weapon. Naturally there are far more chips than finished products, but Mr. Bower reasons that if one can find evidence of chips in a field then there is a good possibility that finished relics will be somewhere nearby.

Within five minutes we had found a few thin flaky "chips" and the hunt was on in earnest. We discarded the first field as having been too recently tilled for good "exposure" conditions, but the second plot of summerfallow produced a broken pointed arrowhead within two minutes. Chips were abundant, and before long George Russell and myself had found our first Indian relics under Mr. Bower's competent leadership. The total result of our afternoon's hunt was seven arrowheads, one of them a particularly well-formed and beautiful specimen, two good skinning knives, five skin-scrapers or fleshing tools, and innumerable interesting fragments.

Mr. Bower's countless friends among the farming fraternity are always glad to tell him when and where they have tilled some summerfallow. Anytime you meet Hugh Bower, in Red Deer's stores or at a farm auction sale or even on a city street in Calgary or Edmonton, he'll be sure to have a few "stones" in his pocket and will fetch them out upon invitation and show you his latest find.

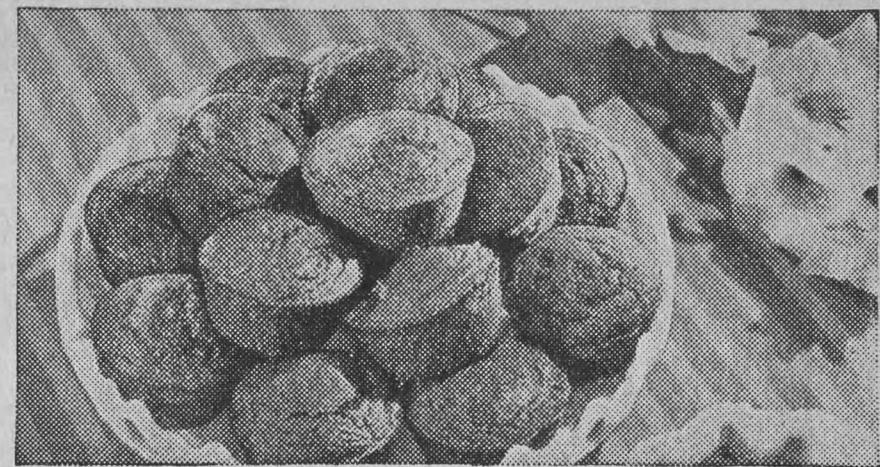
"Here's one with a human-interest story," he'll say, displaying a partially worked arrowhead. "The Indian who did this job either got fed up with the quality of the stone and discarded it in this condition, or else something suddenly interrupted his work and he was never able to return to it."

Then he'll hold up a fragment of blackened pottery and say: "Look at the edge of this. See the thumb print decoration? Rather a small thumb mark, isn't it? My guess is that a pretty young squaw made this pot!"

He has an infectious enthusiasm for his hobby, and admits very readily that since he took up this pastime a few years ago he has got a greater kick out of life. "Farming's fine," he says, "but a man should have a good hobby."

"That's right," smiles Mrs. Bower. "Even if his hobby keeps his wife busy sewing up holes in his pockets, made by all those sharp stones he carries around!"

It's an absorbing hobby, and Hugh Bower has deservedly become central Alberta's best authority on old Indian relics and has had a very happy time attaining that fame.



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	1/2 teaspoon salt

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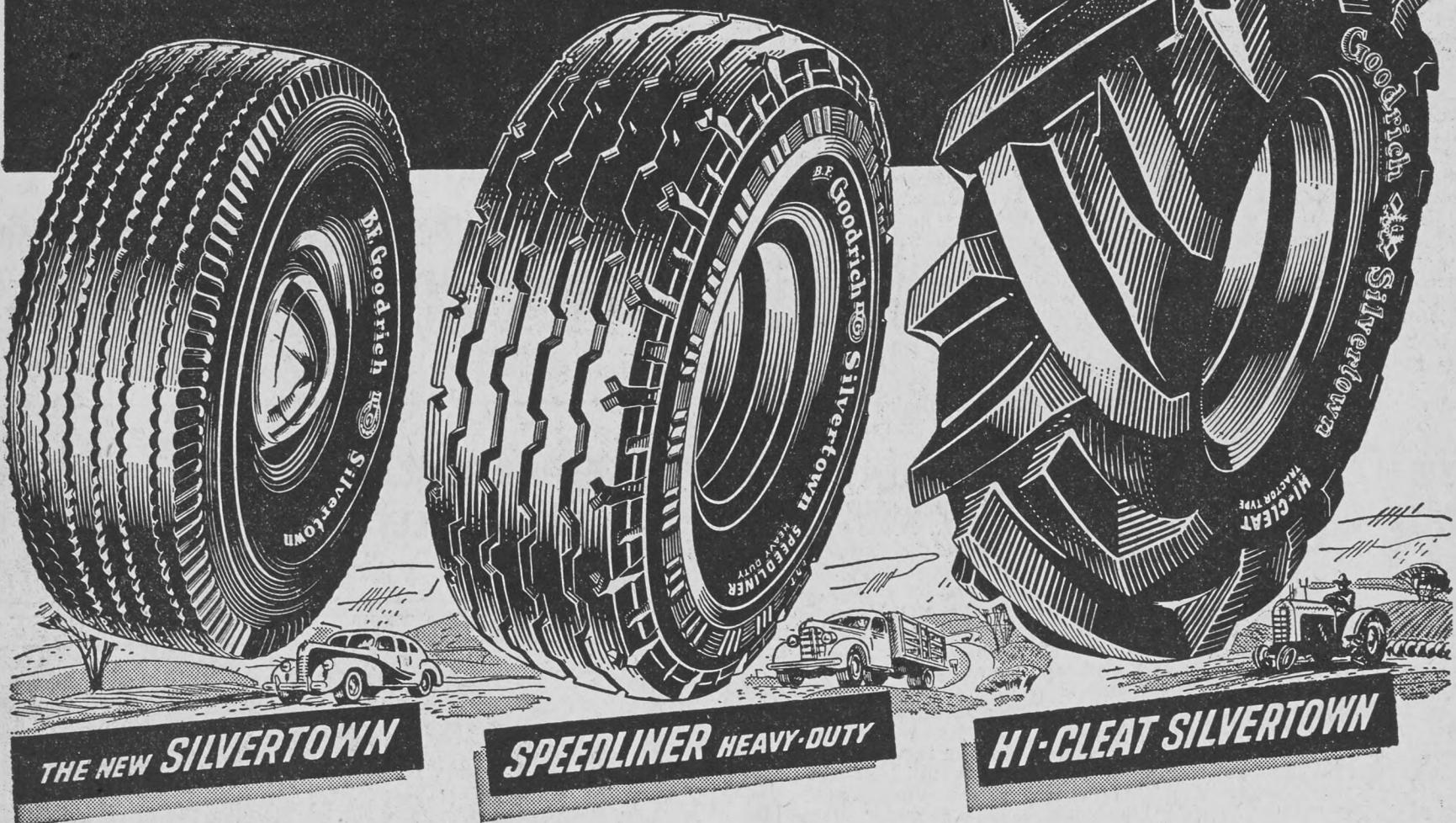
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GIRLS ARE FUNNY

Continued from page 11

sure marry that guy! I thought. What a break to have Mr. McCoy in our family. McCoy crossed his long legs and blew out a smoke ring you could push your arm through. His brown, buttoned shoes with their high toes, crossed and recrossed. I looked at my bare toes and wondered what I'd look like with a pair of shoes like that on.

Kay and Mama started to bring in the victuals. A huge platter of roast pork, then a big bowl of spuds, turnips and carrots followed. My tummy growled, and I began to feel awfully hungry.

"I wonder who's going to sit by the broken tableleg? In case she comes down," Tony whispered.

"You sit where you're put, and keep shut up," I warned.

I thought they'd never get all that good food carried in but finally the good news sounded: "Pull up your chairs."

McCoy was seated in the middle of the long table and beside him sat Kay. Dad took up a position on one side of the busted tableleg and Mama on the other. Everything had turned out fine. Mama had seen to that.

McCoy was a marvel. He could pass victuals, eat, talk, and laugh all at the same time—what more could any girl want?

Everything ran off pretty smooth until Alex told a funny story which I'm sure Mrs. Riddel would have called shady. Everyone laughed. Dad roared.

Then Dad said, "Say, Alex, did you ever hear the one about the old maid with a wooden leg?"

That was as far as he got. Mama's face got awfully red. There was a thump. The table shuddered, then swayed precariously as the broken leg fell to the floor.

Dad jumped to his feet and held up the table to keep things from sliding off on the floor. McCoy laughed so loud that we all looked at him. Mama was really mad now. I held my breath waiting for her to lay into Dad for that slip.

He said, "Now, Martha, if you hadn't tried to kick me, things would'a been all right."

Mama was fuming. "Sam Johnson, are you . . ."

Alex laughed. "Think nothing of it." He winked at Kay and she blushed. "Let's get back to the business at hand."

Gee, Mr. McCoy was some swell guy. He knew what to say and how to say it. I looked at Tony and he was watching Alex. I glanced up at Kay, but she didn't seem to be paying much attention to Alex. She wasn't nearly as interested in him as I thought she should be. She made a bigger fuss over Ben when he came over. Oh, Ben was OK, too, I guess, but heck he didn't have a horse and buggy or anything! What would a girl want of a fella like that?

The rest of the meal finished up without another hitch, the table cleared and dishes washed. Tony and I found ourselves sitting on the floor again watching the devil with women blow smoke rings and talk. Only this time he was talking to Kay instead of Dad. Kay was sitting across from McCoy knitting on a sock. Alex kidded her for a while about knitting, then he reached over and took the sock and needles from her. At first she protested and then she let him have them.

"Don't think that the ladies are the only ones who can do this," he said as he threaded the heavy yarn about his fingers and began knitting like a professional. He made a few rounds then handed back the sock to Kay.

"Well, I'll be darned," Tony whispered. "I thought it was only sissies that knit."

I just couldn't say anything.

"Now where did you learn to do that?" Kay asked him.

"My mother always said that when a fella settles down to raise himself a

family he should know how to be useful," he replied with a laugh.

JUST then I saw what I'd never noticed before, Mr. McCoy had a huge gold tooth. It was the shiniest gold tooth I'd ever seen. It was like that new board Dad had nailed on back of the house. A mark of distinction indeed if I ever saw one! No one could help but admire a man like that. Imagine having someone in our family with a shiner in his mouth. I bet there wasn't another guy in the whole country like that. I thought that if I was Kay I'd try for Alex. Yes! I'd sure try to impress him, if I were her! She could do it too, if she wanted to because everyone in our country said as how she was the sweetest girl that ever sprung from the Johnson tree.

Time slipped by very quickly, at least so it seemed to Tony and me. Mama had a hard time getting us out of the front room where McCoy and Kay were still sitting facing each other. She, knitting, and he, smoking his brown cigarettes. I was a bit disappointed. I hadn't seen anything very encouraging yet. Kay was nice to him, but we had to leave still hoping that McCoy was everything that we had heard he was, for we boys did so want that new buggy and gold tooth in our family. It would really be something worth bragging about to the other kids around the country, for Kay to have a husband with such outstanding possessions.

Come late afternoon and McCoy emerged with Dad by his side going in the general direction of the stable. We kids figured it right and trailed along until we saw him bring Lillian out to the buggy, then we asked him could we have a ride back to the house.

"Sure an' you can have a good ride," said he.

"Maybe down to the crossroads?" Tony put in.

"Huh—Well, now, Kay and I are going out for a little drive," McCoy said. "But maybe some other time."

Lillian was prancing and fidgeting to be off and Dad had a hard time getting the holdback strap snapped. When everything was ready McCoy stepped into the buggy and Lillian was away like a streak. It seemed that she got away so fast that she nearly lifted the buggy off the ground. He pulled her up short in front of the house, then the three of us stared with surprise for there stood Ben and Kay.

I looked at Ben and then at Mr. McCoy. It was easy to see why Ben wasn't a lady killer. He didn't even have a mustache, just a bit of fuzz by his ears.

"All ready, Miss Johnson?" Alex asked.

"Well—" Kay stammered. "You see Ben here has just returned rather unexpectedly from his uncle's and, well we have some very important things to talk over. Perhaps some other time . . . If, well . . ."

Mr. McCoy didn't say a word. No one said a word, and it became awfully still. Everyone looked at the ground. The silence made you feel queer inside.

Then Tony up and blabbed. "If Kay ain't coming you might as well take us kids to the crossroads." McCoy laughed. "Sure," he said, "to the crossroads."

Kay said, "I'm sorry, Mr. McCoy, that I can't go with you tonight. You see, Ben coming home suddenly it . . ."

"Think nothing of it, my dear. The best man always wins," he said, as though he didn't care very much. Then he laughed louder than I'd ever heard him laugh before. He swung Lillian out the gate and down the road, and he was still laughing, and I could see his big gold tooth real plain, and I thought to myself what a fool Kay must be to go back to Ben when Mr. McCoy had everything to give her and Ben had nothing.

Then I said out loud just what I thought.

"Gee, girls are funny!"

I felt sorry for Alex—as well as myself, because I felt that McCoy was slipping away from us. And Mr. McCoy looked at me and he stopped laughing, and he said, "That's right, boy, girls are funny."

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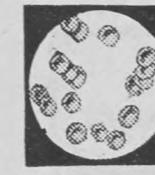
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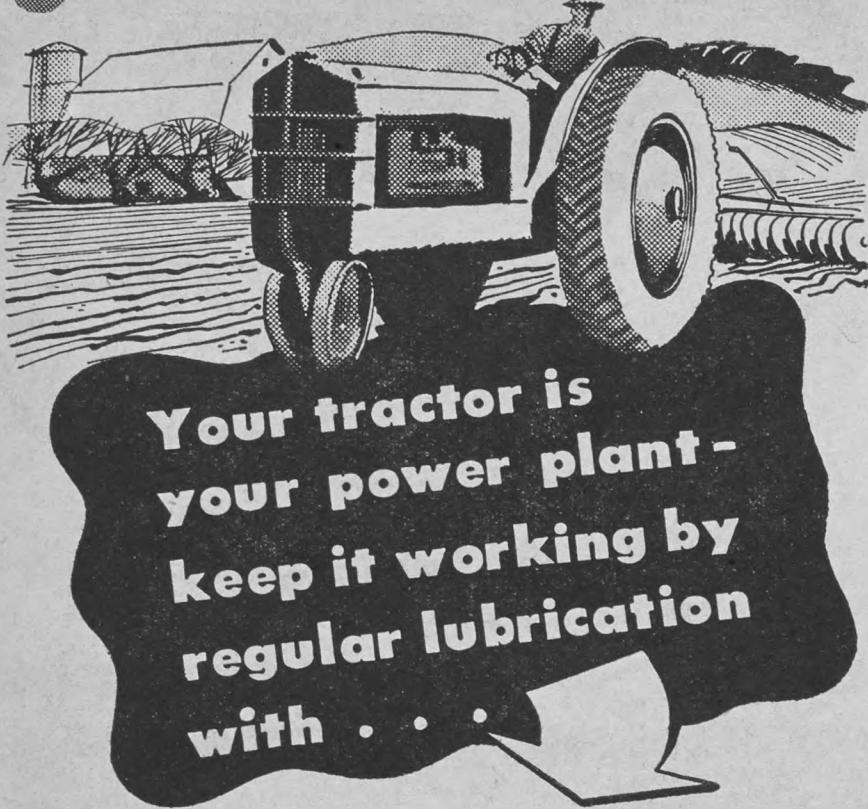
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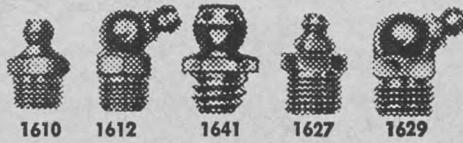


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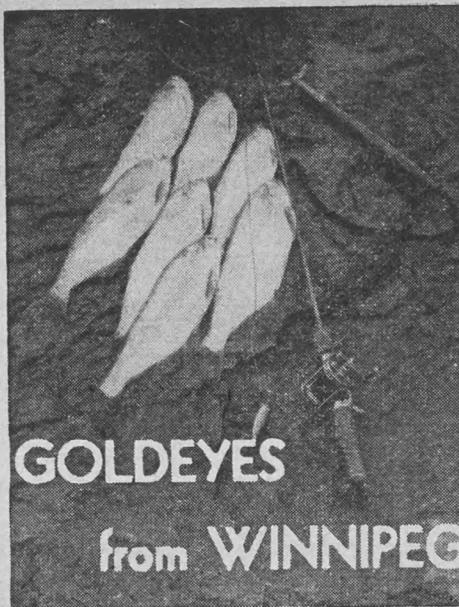
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By KERRY WOOD

LAKE WINNIPEG'S famous smoked goldeye has become legend in the land. It is the gourmet's delight, the gustatory high of fish-eating pleasure. Strangely enough, the fresh-caught fish are not very exciting as an eating proposition, but the smoked article miraculously became one of Canada's great contributions to the epicure's tables. Railway diners made the tasty dish a sought-after favorite with travellers across Canada, and today the luxury restaurants throughout our country and the United States bid steep prices for a share of the lake's annual harvest.

The beautiful, large-scaled goldeye go up the lake's tributary rivers every

spring, spawning far up the Saskatchewan and Red Deer Rivers within sight of the towering Rockies in Alberta. Seldom weighing over a pound in individual weight, the silvery denizen of the western rivers is nevertheless a sporty prize for the angler, and many a Westerner can recall a happy day spent beside an eddy or backwater fishing for the handsome goldeye. They are great little fighters, rising well to the dry and wet flies, voraciously take worms and grasshoppers and minnow baits, and even bite savagely on the larger lures employed by the casting rod fraternity who use wooden plugs, metal wobblers, and spinning lures.

Twenty years ago over a million pounds of goldeyes were netted from Lake Winnipeg every season for the smoked-fish market, but today the yields rarely climb above 300,000 pounds annually. Western anglers, as well as epicures living in distant parts of the continent, are anxious to see wise conservation measures put into effect to bring back the goldeye to its former numbers. Farmers living alongside the great Saskatchewan watershed are among those keenly interested in the welfare of this fine native fish that gives so much pleasure to sportsman and eater alike.

Here is a picture of seven silvery beauties of the goldeye tribe caught on a short rod near Red Deer, Alberta. The scenic Red Deer River provides one of the chief spawning beds for this distinctive western fish.

Ferreting in England

The war revived an ancient pot-hunting sport

By MARGERY HINDS

OWING to the scarcity of meat and the shortage of guns and cartridges ferrets have enjoyed as high a position in English country life as they had in the days of the Romans.

These animals, which are really natives of Africa, are helping fill the nation's larder on an ever increasing scale. Usually the owner carries his ferret to the rabbit warren in a bag, though, if he is not afraid of the creature's blood-thirsty propensity, he may carry it in a big pocket inside his jacket.

His rabbit-catching equipment also includes nets, pegs and a spade.

Arrived at the warren he begins his job by pegging nets over the entrances to the burrows in his immediate surroundings, leaving only one uncovered. Into this he pops the ferret. Then that one too is covered with a net.

The ferreter stands perfectly still and watches. Maybe nothing happens for a minute or two. Suddenly a rabbit may try to dash out of a burrow. It becomes entangled in the net and the ferreter rushes to take it.

Occasionally it happens that two rabbits try to escape through the same opening. The second one is often lucky, making a getaway through the space made by the one in front when it becomes entangled in the net.

If the ferreter has a good dog—one that is obedient enough to remain still until its master tells it to give chase—the rabbits that get out of the burrows are usually caught before they have gone very far.

Now and again a ferreter watches in vain for rabbits to reach the nets so he has to find out what is happening down below. He puts his ear to the ground near the entrance to the burrow the ferret went down. Maybe he can hear a rabbit screaming. That usually means the ferret is attacking it. There is always this risk, especially if a ferret already knows the taste of blood.



Putting the ferret into the burrow.

AND SO CAME SPRING

Continued from page 6

branch next spring. Jim had planted it with great care and had watched it grow for two years.

Flora, the capable girl who helped about the house and cared for David while Nan was busy with the outdoor chores, had left in June to join the Women's Army Corps. Uncle Kirk's summer leave was finished; he had to return to the mines the next day. Nan would be alone with David.

"Well, Nan, what have you decided to do about the farm?" said Uncle Kirk, as he came into the kitchen, carrying a pail of water from the pump in the yard. "I wish you'd make up your mind before I leave. You know I have to catch the train from Bancroft tomorrow night. Surely, you're going to be sensible and give up the idea of staying here this winter."

"Why does Uncle Kirk have to go, Mummy?" called David from the stairs as he came slowly down, his fair curls tumbled, and a toy Spitfire tucked under his chubby arm.

"To dig big lumps of coal," explained Nan, as she poured milk over David's porridge and sprinkled it with brown sugar. "But he'll come back next spring."

"It's not right for you to be here, alone, Nan! Supposin' something did happen. What would you do with the young shaver on your hands?"

Uncle Kirk's eyes were full of resolute purpose as they squinted against the smoke rising from the cigarette at the corner of his mouth.

"Oh, Uncle Kirk don't worry about us. We'll manage," said Nan, bravely.

"I'm not a young shaver," interrupted David. "You said I couldn't shave for twelve years."

UNCLE KIRK laughed and ruffled David's curls.

"Sell to Burrows and find a couple of nice rooms for yourself in the city and take it easy for the winter. The cows would bring a good price and Bob Reed would buy the team. They say horses are scarce in some parts of the country."

Nan listened, and shook her head.

"Rooms in the city are hard to find. Marion Shaw had to live for months with friends and then she had to take a cottage on the edge of the city."

"You're being plain foolish and stubborn about this, Nan! It's no way for a woman to live. You won't even have the school teacher to board for company since Hiram's wife went back teaching."

"I can't leave," said Nan. "I dread the winter here all alone but I can't leave. Jim's counting on us being here when he gets back. Dick Willows came home in August and he's just lost in the city since his Dad sold the farm. Jim may need this old farm more than we realize when he returns. This was Great Grandfather Gordon's homestead and Jim's father lived here all his life. I'm sure that's why Jim wanted David to grow up here. No! we must stay, David and I."

"And who is going to stay in the house with David while you trudge out in the snow at forty below to do the chores?" continued Uncle Kirk, impatiently. "Surely, you've thought of that."

Who? That was the question that was filling Nan's mind. Who? she thought, with an anxious frown that brought shadows to her usually bright brown eyes as she recalled the time she had left David safely playing inside his play-pen and went off to find Betsy, the Ayrshire heifer that had strayed away with her pink and white calf. The memory of that day made Nan shudder with horror. She had returned to find the play-pen empty. Rover, the faithful old collie kept on barking and racing back and forth between Nan and the brook down to the creek. With sickening fear that froze her heart Nan had followed and it was there she found David fast asleep where he had fallen in the cool, tangled grass with the smudges of snow on his warm cheek. That was the



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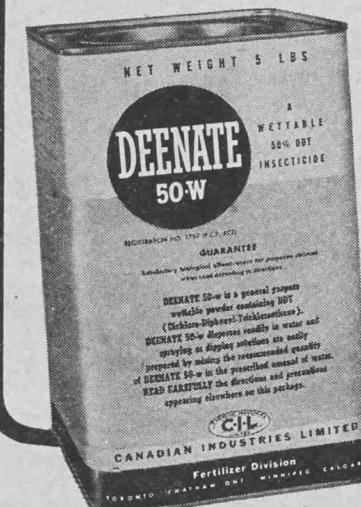
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"DEENATE" 50-W comes in powder form. Just mix with water. When used as a dip or spray for live stock and poultry, one pound makes from 10 to 20 gallons.

Control insect pests this safer, more economical way. Ask your dealer for "DEENATE" 50-W — the new, *pre-tested* DDT insecticide.



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wakes up

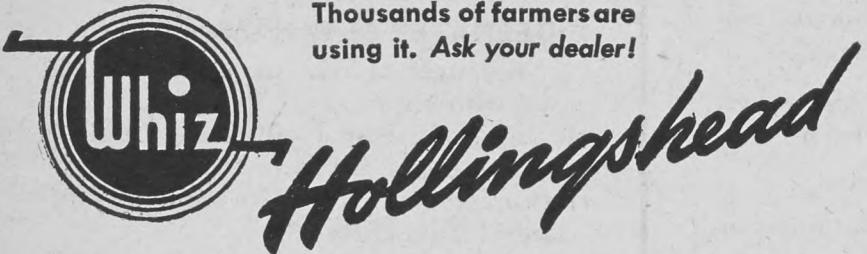
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last time Nan had left David entirely alone.

"Why don't I have a Grandma to stay with me like Teddy?" said David. "I saw some in the catalog. We could send for one."

David lugged the large mail order book from the shelf, carried it over and laid it on Nan's lap. Intently, he began leafing over the pages. "Here's one. Oh, look, Mummy," he cried. "Here's one in blue."

Nan did not take any notice of his chatter. A long dissenting silence filled the kitchen.

Finally, Uncle Kirk exclaimed, "Well, I've heard of all kinds of jobs, and all sorts of folks to fill 'em, but I never heard of anyone hiring out as a grandmother."

Nan did not even smile, and Uncle Kirk could see his niece was really worried. That was exactly what he wanted for when Nan became truly serious over a situation she usually did something about it.

Uncle Kirk was very fond of Nan and he hated to see those worry shadows that had settled down over her countenance and the firm lines that had gathered about her mouth. He knew she had sorely missed Jim. Airgraphs and blue air letters were cold companions. Thinking to cheer her up, he said:

"How much gas have we left? Enough to run into the city today? You can do some shopping and I'll take the rest of the honey to Wicketts. Be sure you remember to get a new bolt for the pump handle," he added. "It's mighty awkward drawin' water without it."

THE morning sun was tinting the prairie with rose and gold when Nan finished feeding the chickens and dressing herself, and David, for the day away from the farm. The feathery snow had melted into tiny puddles on the garden path when they left for the city in the light truck Jim had been so proud of. As they drove through the gate Nan turned to look at the home that had come to mean so much to her. How peaceful it looked in the morning sun, nestled down beneath the outflung branches of the elms. She caught a glimpse of the vine along the verandah. Jim planted it the first summer she was there. It was brown and bare now but a few weeks ago its flaming tones had put the gorgeous tinged zinnias to shame. Uncle Kirk was driving and pointing out things along the way to small David.

Nan was busy with her own thoughts. She was turning over in her mind a telephone conversation she had with Oliver Shipley, the trustee of Merrydale school, just before she left home. Nan had taught school before she married Jim.

"Would you consider coming to teach for us, Mrs. Gordon?" he had said. "The young girl we have at present leaves to join the army at the end of the month and it would be a great relief to the trustees if you could see your way clear to take over the Merrydale school. I'm afraid we'll have to close up if you don't."

We'd be happy to have you until Jim gets home."

Nan's mind raced on. The Merrydale school was only four miles from the Gordon farm. She could sell all but one cow. She'd sell the chickens, too. She would keep Prince to drive over in the mornings. Uncle Kirk must not find out about this until she was sure in her own mind.

She had looked out of the window to see if he was safely out of hearing before she had answered: "Oh, Mr. Shipley, it's wonderful to be asked to teach again. I wonder if a farmer's wife would know as much about teaching as she ought to? I'll let you know. I've been considering some changes. Uncle Kirk thinks I should sell the farm. I'll give you a call tomorrow."

Yes, it would be fun to teach again, thought Nan. But what of David? He was too young to take to school. His antics would have the children distracted in no time.

Trips to the city, which was forty miles away, were seldom taken, but when they were, plans were made to spend a whole day there. The hours flew by so quickly Nan could never attend to all the items on her shopping list. David's tiny legs would grow weary long before the day was finished so he stayed with Marion Shaw in her brown and white suburban cottage and played with her two lively children, Jerry and Jill.

Nan paid a visit to the dentist, bought a warm red sweater for David and tried at several shops to get him some long stockings. She had great fortune in her grocery purchases; she bought some raisins and currants and delicious smelling peel, things she could seldom get at the small store in Bancroft.

BY two o'clock Nan's feet felt hot and blistered. She decided she had time for a rest before she picked up the bolt for the pump handle and called for Uncle Kirk at Wicketts market. She found a vacant chair in a quiet corner of the rest room in the large departmental store and dropped her bulging shopping bag down beside it. She kicked off her pumps; she wasn't used to such high heels, and sank back into the chair for a welcome rest. She closed her eyes. Loneliness in this big room where so many voices droned steadily on seemed to be even heavier than when she was at home amid the familiar things; the grey old gate that squeaked when the wind blew from the south, Rover, who was David's faithful guard and the well-trodden cow paths along the creek where she often walked to think things out and renew her courage.

This must be how Jim feels, thought Nan.

In his last letter he had written: "four years so crammed full I feel as if I'd been out here forever. At night, if things are quiet, I can picture you bringing in the cows and going out to close the last chicken coop before bedtime. I can still hear that old meadow lark who sang from the top of our telephone pole. Did he come back this year? And did you tell David what he says? It always

WHO'S pecking WHO
around here?

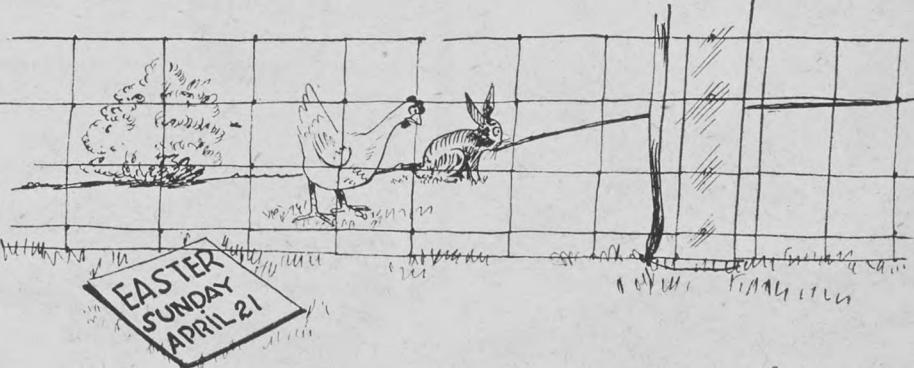


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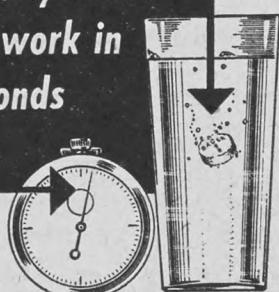
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sounded like . . . I . . . I am comfortable. Lucky devil. I'd be comfortable, too, if I could see what he does." That was it: Jim's contact with the life he had lived with them! She thought of the approaching decision she must make with a disturbing pang. Things were so mixed up. Uncle Kirk was set on her leaving the farm. He couldn't understand. There were so many things to be done. She must remember to put the wire rabbit guard around Jim's apple tree before the snow got deep. Rabbits loved to nibble at the bark. Destructive little wretches! If only there was someone with whom she could leave David "I'd soon get through the work," said Nan, aloud.

Nan had been aware of the hum of conversation all about her but she had not heard a word. Finally, one particularly sweet voice broke through to her consciousness. "Yes, I'm all alone now. My husband died soon after the last war and Paul, my only son, went down in a bomber over Hamburg. He was all I had. He married a lovely looking girl in England . . . I have her photo here . . . I'm trying to save up and perhaps after the war I'll get over there to see her. I'm only sixty-three, you know. There must be some job an old lady can do."

"Sixty-three!" exclaimed a second voice. "You don't look a day over fifty."

"It's kind of you to say that. Good health, I expect is the reason. Did I tell you I have to give up my nice cozy room?" went on the sweet voice. "Yes, Mrs. Larence's daughter is coming home from Ottawa."

"What a pity," said the second voice. "Here's the morning paper, have a look at the advertisements. I must hurry though or I'll miss my bus."

Nan opened her eyes and looked at the occupants of the nearby chairs. That must be the one who is sixty-three and has lost her son; the little person with the silvered hair that curls about her face and frames her quiet grey eyes. The rose of her knitted scarf thrown about her shoulders lent a soft tint to her fine features. Her dark blue coat was neat but shabby at the cuffs. Her black hat was old fashioned but she wore it with such a tidy grace that Nan forgot her clothing and saw only her kindly warm smile. Her slender fingers were busy knitting; knitting a sock perhaps for someone's son who was far away.

"I'd like to talk to her and cheer her up. I know that all-alone feeling so well," said Nan, to herself. She was aware of an excitement of mind toward this little woman who was so in need of comfort. It gave her a sense of a revival of her own staying powers as if a certain solid strength took hold of her. But just as Nan was getting up courage to move over to the vacant chair by her side the little old lady gathered up her knitting, tucked the advertisement section of the paper in her bag, and moved away.

Nan glanced at her watch. She still had time to do a bit more shopping before she had to call for the truck at the garage and pick up Uncle Kirk. As she moved through the aisles of the store crowded with throngs of shoppers, Nan spied a table covered with skeins of air-force blue wool. "Oh, what luck!" she exclaimed, "I'll get some and make a pair of socks for Jim's Christmas parcel."

A milling crowd of women pressed close to the table, each intent on her own desires. Nan was unaccustomed to jostling and pushing her way through such a crowd and she continually found herself on the outside no matter how she tried to move forward and when she did come near to the table she could see it was almost bare. "Please, could you reach a skein of wool for me?" she said, to the person in front of her. In an instant the woman turned with the blue wool in her hand.

IT was then Nan recognized her; the little lady who was sixty-three and had lost her son. An idea gripped Nan. She weighed it swiftly.

"Oh. Oh thank you," she said, as she took the skein of wool in her hand. "Won't you let me talk to you? I . . . I feel as if I knew you. I couldn't help hearing what you said to your friend as you talked together in the rest room. Please forgive me for listening. I heard about Paul . . . I'm so very, very sorry

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... for Joseph M. P. Nakaska
Ghost Pine Creek, Alberta

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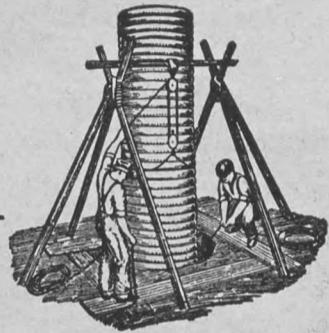
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... and how lonely you have been. I know about Paul's wife in England, too. I think I know a way."

Before Nan realized she was telling her story. She told of Jim and his four years' absence. She told of her own loneliness and her great need of someone to help care for David while she was busy about the farm. Why not come to the country... home with me, for awhile," she said. "You wouldn't have to look for a new room just now. My Jim's fighting like..." a lump tightened in Nan's throat, "... like your son Paul did," she said.

Margaret Owen's kindly grey eyes were wells of tears as she answered "If I could help you, my dear, I'd be glad to go. I lived on a farm the first years after I was married. I know about chickens. Perhaps I could attend to them. I'm sure there would be lots of little things I could do to help."

"I'm sure of it!" said Nan, emphatically.

"Now, let's go and get your things. I don't want to keep Uncle Kirk waiting."

At five o'clock, Nan, with her newfound friend all packed and ready for the country, started out to meet Uncle Kirk at Wicketts. It had all happened so suddenly. Nan's heart began to grow anxious when she realized what she had done. Had she done the right thing in asking this stranger into her home? Then to heighten her unease, she thought of Uncle Kirk. What would he say? Uncle Kirk's approval mattered greatly to Nan.

Her eyes were bright. Her cheeks were afire with excitement as she went through the mirrored doors of Wicketts market where Uncle Kirk waited.

Uncle Kirk was full of wonder and interest when she announced: "I have a surprise for you." But his puzzled look changed to amazement when they reached the truck and Nan introduced her uncle to Margaret Owen.

Nan laughed rather too loudly to hide her trepidation. "Mrs. Owen has had to give up her room and she is coming to the farm for awhile. She'll be company for us," she said.

Uncle Kirk remained silent. And in his silence Nan was conscious of his disapproval.

They called at Marion Shaw's for David on their way out of the city and his first eager question was: "What did you bring me, Mummy?"

"You'll see when we get out to the truck, dear."

Nan opened the door of the truck.

David looked with shyness at the little lady with the gentle grey eyes and the soft silvered hair. Then he caught a glimpse of the warm blue of her dress about her throat. "Oh, a Grandma from the catalog!" he cried, and a smile dimpled the corners of his childish mouth.

"Yes, a Grandma," said Margaret Owen. "Come, my dear." And she drew David into the circle of her arms and kissed him.

There was an odd shaken feeling of tenderness for this woman in Nan's heart as she saw her gather the child into her arms. Her eyes were misty as she caught and held Uncle Kirk's glance. Nan knew that Uncle Kirk approved. Understanding grew in his eyes.

"A Grandma," he echoed.

That evening when the shadows of dusk darkened into night and the air was rich with the smell of dry leaves and smoke and fading autumn Nan went for her usual stroll along the garden path to meditate on the happenings of the day and to dwell in silence with her own love, so far but yet so near to her.

SPRING came. The maple trees, with their slim and airy grace, stood behind the garden clothed in a mist of claret-colored blossoms. A green tide of grass dotted with drifts of golden dandelions covered the flats along the creek. The air was fragrant with the smell of growing things. Something of the freedom and wanderlust of the Springtime surged through Nan's blood as she watched the wild geese honking their way in a broad V, and long wavering lines, toward the North from where she stood in the garden.

In a few short weeks her time at the Merrydale school where she had taught all winter would be finished. Last night



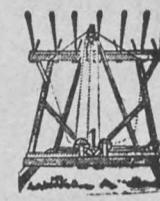
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she had met Uncle Kirk at Bancroft station when he had come earlier but intended to stay for the summer. This morning he was busy plowing the potato, corn, and pumpkin patch in the corner of the alfalfa field. Nan could see the white gulls wheeling overhead, circling, and lighting on the fresh black furrows to snatch at a fat grub.

It was Saturday morning. Nan was planting the kitchen garden. As she sat on an old upturned nail keg and sorted over packets of beet, carrot, and lettuce seed, the early spring sun beat down warmly on her bare head.

"Grandma Margaret, Grandma Margaret! Come and see. Come quick! A robin's making a nest," shrieked David joyfully as he ran to Margaret Owen where she sprinkled golden grain for the chickens in the open yard by the hen house. Nan saw the gentle old lady set down her blue granite pan of grain and hurry off with the small excited boy. Margaret Owen had filled the role of Grandma to satisfy every desire in David's heart. Many happy hours he had listened to her stories while Nan was away at school. Their winter had been rich and warm with friendliness.

FARMING IN THE FRASER DELTA

Continued from page 10

of about 1,600 No. 2 cans of peas, which are cooked for 35 minutes after being brought to a cooking heat of 240 degrees Fahr. Following this the cans are cooled and are trucked to the warehouse, packed in cases, and stored.

The cannery has contracts to supply peas to makers of vegetable soups. Such peas are processed by the method already described, up to the fillers. Still hot from the blancher, these peas are put through a flume of cold water which lowers the temperature. In a mixing machine salt is then added to the peas at the rate of one pound to five pounds of peas. The mixing machine has its outlet on the ground floor, where the heavily brined peas are placed in large oaken barrels, 350 pounds to the barrel.

The barrels are immediately hauled to a cold storage warehouse, or to refrigerator cars to be shipped to Campbell's Soups, Deseronto, Ontario, or to Heinz, at Leamington, Ontario.

ALTHOUGH peas are the greatest income producers of any crop in this area, several crops also are grown extensively. Mr. Davie's other crops acreages are a fairly good barometer of the relative importance of each. This year he has 18 acres of potatoes, 10 acres of fibre flax, 20 acres of clover and timothy hay, 12 acres of certified Eagle oats, three acres of Elite Alaska oats, five acres of spinach seed, and one acre of mangel seed. He is building up a herd of Guernsey cattle, and has 100 breeding ewes—grade Suffolks and Hampshires. He milks about 30 cows the year around, shipping the fluid milk to Vancouver.

Nearly every farmer has a family orchard of cherry, peach, apple, plum, and pear trees. He likewise has strawberries and raspberries, usually in plantings of commercial importance. Fur farming also is well represented here. Once it was believed that to produce fine furs, cold winters were necessary. It is now known, Mr. Davie told me, that proper feeding will produce fine pelts in any climate—so fur farming is on the increase in British Columbia.

Potatoes perhaps account for the largest acreage of any crop on the Delta, possibly 2,500 acres or more, as compared with 2,000 of green peas, Mr. Davie estimated. Potatoes are ready for digging about the earliest of any place in Canada. Usually about May 24 Delta farmers begin supplying the Vancouver market. Those first potatoes were unusually welcome last year, for there was a month or more when potatoes could not be purchased at any price. In the order of their popularity the four most commonly grown varieties are Early

Nan paused in the sorting of the vegetable seeds to read again a letter she carried in her sweater pocket, a letter she had read a dozen times, or more, since the mailman dropped it in the box by the gate. Her eyes blurred with tears of sheer happiness as she gazed at the heart-thrilling words.

"... At last, and gosh, how I've waited! The job's cleaned up and its home for me. The fellows all say we'll be leaving next week. I'll keep you posted, but believe me, honey, when the old tub docks at Montreal that'll be my VE day! How about a lemon pie, two inches thick, for the day I arrive, there's nothing like them in the whole world. Think of it, Nan darling, home to you and David! I can hardly wait to get going at the old farm again."

Nan rose and walked to the apple tree where it stood in full bloom, pink and white against the blue sky. Its branches waved in the warm spring breeze, a breeze that was full of life and ecstasy. "We'll be waiting here, Jim," she whispered, and reached out her hand to caress one of the blossoms on the Blushed Calville tree.

Epic, White Rose, Netted Gem and Green Mountain.

Dairying is the third leading industry Mr. Davie mentioned. To supply the great demand for fluid milk of a city the size of Vancouver and her suburbs, requires a great many cows—and of course a lot of feed for those cows. Mr. Davie grows all his own feed, or its equivalent. For example, he sells some of his oats for seed and buys concentrates for his milkers.

One of the fastest growing industries in this part of British Columbia, Mr. Davie declared, was the production of vegetable and flower seed. The war had created a demand formerly supplied by European countries. Another lusty infant was the fibre flax industry. With plans being made by a Vancouver firm to construct a flax spinning plant, the growing of fibre flax would be profitable for an increasing number of Fraser Valley farmers.

THIS Delta country, containing some 14,000 acres of the best river bottom soil, is unusually favorably situated. It is served by a network of hard-surfaced roads and by an electric power line, so that much of the farmer's work and that of his wife can be done by cheap electric power. Water, from the hills between the Delta and New Westminster, is piped to every house and barn, and also to fields if desired.

Little irrigation is being practised, but farmers are now seriously discussing the advisability of installing overhead systems to increase yields of the more specialized crops.

It is easy to realize that a large amount of labor is required to carry on an enterprise such as that of Mr. Davie. Sixty cents per hour is the usual wage offered this year. He has been able to obtain most of his seasonal help from the nearby R.C.A.F. station. He doesn't know how he would have managed without them to help with hoeing, haying, planting, and harvesting.

An interesting little sidelight of this trip was the fact that a small bit of the United States was only three miles from Mr. Davie's land, and a geographical part of the Delta. It is five or six miles from any other portion of the United States, separated by an arm of the sea, Boundary Bay. There are some 2,000 acres of it altogether, mainly hilly, unproductive land, not more than 250 acres of it good farm land, Mr. Davie thought. Port Roberts is the name of the town, where the usual border customs and immigration offices are located. The principal industry, besides a little farming, is fishing. It has now come to be quite a summer resort.

When the new regulations came into effect barring the export of meat into the United States there was an unforeseen hardship to Canadian servicemen living across in Point Roberts and on duty each day at their station. They were not permitted to take meat from Ladner or Vancouver to their homes for the evening meal. That difficulty was, of course, removed within a few days.



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Ex-Serviceman Grows Frogs

Ray Reynolds has founded an unusual enterprise and is making it pay

By J. T. EWING

WHEN Ray Reynolds was discharged from the army a little more than a year ago, after four years' service in the home guard, he immediately founded an enterprise which was the result of an idea he had cherished for several years. He established a frog farm.

In studying the proposition from all angles, he had learned that a mild climate was essential for the production of large frogs which bring the best prices. So he chose British Columbia. The best location was near a large city which would provide a ready market for frogs' legs. So he chose Vancouver. For best results a tiny, slow moving stream was required. He found the ideal site near Webster Corners, in the Fraser Valley, less than an hour's run east of Vancouver.

The 20 acres of land which Mr. Reynolds purchased was traversed along one side by Kanaka Creek. This creek was not much more than a trickle at the time of my visit in mid-August. But during the rainy season in winter it becomes so large and swift that it is not a suitable stream for frog raising. The source of water for his operations is a tiny unnamed rivulet which flows into Kanaka Creek at this point.

It meant plenty of hard work to get the dams made, and all the work necessary to cut a home out of the "bush." To construct the two dams he moved about 100 yards of dirt with no more modern tools than a shovel and a wheelbarrow. To clear a few acres for a home site he had the help of a gas donkey engine, which made the job easier.

There are two ponds. One of these contains adult frogs which now number about 200. In the other are tadpoles which number several thousand. A tile drain connects the two ponds, and an outlet is provided to Kanaka Creek so that a continuous flow of water in and out of the ponds keeps the water fresh.

The life cycle of a frog begins in June when the females lay their eggs and the male frogs fertilize them at the same time. A single female will spawn 5,000, 7,000, or even 10,000 eggs, according to Mr. Reynolds, in a few days. A female will not spawn until the weather is warm, so the exact date depends on the season. For best results there should be even mating, a male for each female.

The eggs stay on the surface of the water as a gelatinous mass until they hatch. If the weather is warm the tadpoles begin to hatch in about a week. Soon there are countless thousands wriggling about in the water.

"When the females are about to spawn," Mr. Reynolds told me, "I try to move all of them over into the tadpole pond. When the spawning season is over I move them all back into the larger pond. The principal reason for this is that frogs are cannibalistic and will devour a great many of the tadpoles unless this precaution is taken."

Rolled oats is sprinkled on the water as food for the tadpoles. Damaged goods may be obtained at a low price. According to Mr. Reynolds many frog farmers in the United States feed cottonseed oil meal. He is unable to obtain it here at the present time, however. An adequate amount of nourishing food is very necessary in the tadpole stage, as the size of the adult frog is determined by the amount of nourishment it had as a tadpole. Mr. Reynolds has frogs which are twenty inches in length, but in the wild state they seldom approach that size, as they are not likely to obtain sufficient nourishment as tadpoles.

The length of time they remain tadpoles also is influenced by the nourish-

ment factor, Mr. Reynolds said. If the season is warm and their food supply adequate, they may become frogs in just over a year after they were spawned. They develop lungs, absorb their tails, and their gills no longer function. It requires about three years for them to reach their full growth.

"Frogs like live food," Mr. Reynolds explained. "Insects provide their main source of diet. Unwary snakes and even small birds are devoured by the larger ones. A few days ago I threw a 24-inch snake into the pond. A large frog quickly grabbed it. If a frog swallows something it does not like, it places both front feet into its mouth and disgorges the offending substance."

To lure insects within reach of the frogs' darting tongues he hangs wire mesh baskets, filled with meat scrap, near the surface of the water. After about a month a fresh lot of scrap has to be placed in the baskets, as the odor which attracts the insects is dissipated by that time, especially in rainy weather. The amphibians feed mainly in the evening, and almost any day at dusk a large number may be seen around the baskets.

"I bought a colony of bees," Mr. Reynolds confided, "thinking that they might provide an additional source of food for the frogs. They do, too, for I often see a bee go to the pond for a drink, but I seldom see one return."

Frogs, according to Mr. Reynolds, are very free from disease. They sometimes are afflicted with "red leg." They become red on the under part of the body and legs, as if chafed. He has never had trouble with this ailment, as it is caused by the presence of dirty, stagnant water. It is very desirable to keep the frogs healthy, for when they are sick they do not eat, consequently do not grow.

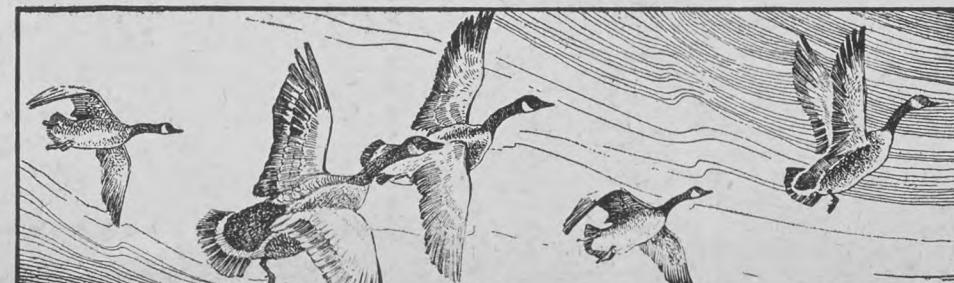
When it is desired to take frogs out of the pond—whether they are to be sold on the market, or for breeding stock, the job is done at night. Using a small flat bottomed boat Mr. Reynolds shines a powerful flashlight on the water. The frogs will remain quiet in the light and are easily taken with a dip net. Some customers want live frogs, others prefer them freshly killed. It is immaterial to Mr. Reynolds how they are ordered, as a light tap on the head kills them.

About a quarter of a frog's weight is edible, Mr. Reynolds estimated. From the larger ones a larger percentage probably can be used, as both front and hind legs are eaten.

When Mr. Reynolds chose frog culture as a means of livelihood he did so because he believed it was an industry capable of a great deal of expansion. He recommends it highly to ex-service men. Although three or four non-paying years are required to get started, during which time an auxiliary source of income would be necessary, profits are good when a reserve of frogs has been built up.

A great deal of work must be done to provide dams and to clean up the land to be flooded. A certain amount of wood, brush, etc., may be left, but rotting logs should be removed as they are likely to contaminate the water, resulting in disease.

"Care should be taken to provide a place as nearly like their natural habitat as possible," Mr. Reynolds said in conclusion. "They want a few logs to climb out on, and grass and reeds to get into where they can hide from their natural enemies. Blue cranes are their worst enemies here. Kingfishers destroy many tadpoles, but seldom attack an adult frog—and are likely to end inside the frog if they do."



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CAN WHEAT TRADE BE FREED FROM TARIFFS

A page of Monthly Commentary furnished by United Grain Growers Ltd.

In preparation for the world trade conference which it is expected will meet in Washington late in the year a committee has been set up at Ottawa to study various aspects of tariffs, and the presentation of briefs on behalf of various Canadian interests has been invited. A few weeks ago the Premiers of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta announced that a joint submission on behalf of the provinces was to be made. Responding to an invitation United Grain Growers forwarded a submission outlining what the Company believes should be included in such a submission. That gave an opportunity to suggest that at the forthcoming conference Canada should endeavor to have wheat made a free trade commodity throughout the world.

The argument presented in this connection was as follows:

However great the satisfaction with which Canada can regard measures for the promotion of international trade in general, it will be to miss a unique opportunity not to seek specific tariff reductions which will do most good to Canadian trade. What is the outstanding example in that respect, and a review of the whole structure of Canadian trade will show that of all Canadian goods and commodities it is pre-eminently the one with respect to which the most might be accomplished for Canada by obtaining tariff concessions from other countries.

There are many reasons for pre-eminent concern at the forthcoming conference with the tariff position of wheat.

Wheat is not only Canada's chief agricultural export, it is also, except when prices are unduly low, the chief export of all Canada.

The welfare, both of prairie agriculture and of all Canadian agriculture, depends upon maintaining not only a reasonable price for wheat, but also large volume of wheat exports. Prairie farmers, if driven out of wheat production, would inevitably invade, to the disadvantage of other Canadian farmers, both export and domestic markets on which agriculture elsewhere in Canada depends.

Wheat is a world trade commodity, in the sense that, produced for export in many different countries, it is imported, either steadily or occasionally into almost every country. Moreover, imports are chiefly into countries which, themselves grow some wheat, so that a problem of tariffs constantly arises.

Wheat is one of the great basic commodities of international trade, and the total volume of such trade in other lines will be favorably or unfavorably affected as conditions with respect to wheat trade are prosperous or the reverse.

A Lesson of the Great Depression

When the record of the great depression is examined it will be found that its impact on Canadian economy in suddenness, in duration and extent was largely occasioned with respect to wheat and the decline both of prices and of volume of exports. It will also be found that the rapid shrinkage of world trade which began in 1929 was based to a considerable extent upon the declining volume of wheat trade brought about by an increase in tariffs against wheat which, although begun somewhat earlier, began at that time to have the restrictive effect which gradually was to be disastrously intensified. To guard against a recurrence of such a development will not only be to safeguard the interest of this wheat growing area. It will be to provide assurances for both the general economy of Canada and for the world as a whole.

As was the case after the last war, the world at this time depends upon wheat production in Canada as a defense against starvation. After ten years of such dependence, following the ar-

mistice of 1918, a concerted attempt to lessen or avoid wheat imports, on the part of wheat importing countries brought western Canada to disaster. If the world is to be fed during the years immediately ahead, and if western farmers are to put forth the efforts which the present need demands, they will require some assurance against a recurrence of the former sequence of events. Nothing could be a greater assurance of food supplies, now and for some time ahead urgently required, than a world tariff policy giving promise of stabilizing the future of wheat in international trade.

Canada has many other exports of importance. But none of them, it will be found, require consideration, in a

terests of their own producers of soft wheat by certain countries of Europe. We would not, however, wish to have Canada seek such a limitation on the general benefit of a world tariff agreement on wheat.

In the proposals issued by the government of the United States for the forthcoming conference reference is made to the possibility of intergovernmental commodity arrangements which may result when a commodity is or is likely to become in burdensome world surplus. Such agreement, it is made clear, would involve restrictions on production or trade. Necessary or inevitable as such restrictions might become with respect to wheat, if tariffs applied against wheat should again restrict the

Can wheat be made a Free Trade Commodity throughout the world? Proposals to that effect have been made by United Grain Growers Limited in preparation for the world trade conference which is expected to meet in Washington before the end of this year.

general conference, to the same extent as wheat. Some of them are marketed only in a single country. Some of them are basic raw materials of which Canada has almost a world monopoly, and which other countries are so eager to buy that questions of trade interference by tariffs do not arise. In regard to others, and especially to manufactures generally, although the market may be important to Canada, this country's supplies form so small a proportion of total trade that Canada must leave it to other countries to assume leadership. In wheat however, Canada is by far the largest exporter, and the lead with respect to wheat, if it is to come from anywhere, must come from Canada.

With such facts in mind we urge that Canada endeavor to obtain agreement that wheat shall be a free trade commodity throughout the world, subject to no customs tariffs.

Idea Not New

Such an idea is not new. It has already been presented to the government of Canada by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in a presentation made on February 2, 1942, as one of the peace time objectives for Canadian agriculture.

The total elimination of customs duties on all articles and goods, while it may appear to many people as a desirable objective, must be recognized as unobtainable at the present moment. But definitely at this time to release some sections of world trade from the hampering effect of tariffs will surely be recognized as both a desirable and a practicable measure, the scope of which might later be gradually extended.

Indeed at this time it may easily be found possible to secure general agreement to establish a fairly large area of international trade definitely removed from tariff restrictions. Other world commodities, perhaps cereals generally and other forms of food, possibly including fish, and some of the important base metals of the world might well be covered by such a general agreement. Certainly Canada should show no reluctance to make as far reaching as possible an agreement which would free trade in some of the world's great commodities from the hampering influence of tariffs.

On the other hand, if it should develop that some countries are not yet willing to go so far as is suggested, with respect to all wheat it might be found practicable to make such an agreement with respect to hard wheat of a certain minimum specified protein content, say 12%. Such a limitation may conceivably be useful, if thought desirable in the in-

scope of international trade, the special problems associated with wheat cannot satisfactorily be solved for Canada except upon the basis of an expanding, instead of a limited world trade in wheat. For that reason it is essential that wheat be dealt with in general tariff discussions, and not neglected for consideration merely when problems of surplus arise through failure to deal adequately with a tariff problem. In negotiations for a special intergovernmental commodity arrangement for wheat Canada would have nothing to offer except a willingness to restrain either production or exports, and nothing to gain except an undertaking from other exporting countries for similar restraints. In a general tariff discussion however, Canada has to offer the possibility of an expanded trade with this country and can seek concessions, not from this country's competitors, but rather from its customers.

Naturally such a submission covered the historic objections of the farmers of western Canada to protective tariffs. Those would be good grounds for arguing in favor of tariff reductions. They are still stronger grounds for advocating a willingness on the part of Canada to agree to reduce the country's tariffs if important concessions can be obtained in return. The opportunity to discuss tariffs in a conference of many countries is especially important to Canada.

Importance of the Opportunity

No argument is necessary to establish the harm that customs tariffs and other restraints of trade have in the past done to the economic structure of the world. That is universally recognized, and official statements in that respect have repeatedly been made by statesmen of many countries. Nevertheless history has shown how easy it is for tariffs to grow and how difficult it is for them to be modified. There is always some interest in a country, or some section of a national economy that sees an advantage, definite and calculable, to itself from any particular duty. Even when it happens that concurrent disadvantages to other interests or other sections of the national economy are far greater in total extent, these are likely to be indefinite and diffused, and consequently tend to be ignored in the determination of a national trade policy. But perhaps the most important reason that the total net disadvantages of a system of protective tariffs have been overlooked lies in the fact that no country, in calculating the effect of a trade policy, is accustomed to take into account the harm that is done to other countries.

Now for the first time in history the opportunity will be accorded, at the forthcoming conference, to bring into reckoning the total damage done by tariffs in restraint of trade. That fact is of especial importance to Canada, and not only because of this country's great stake in international trade. An additional reason is to be found in the nature of this country's trade with other countries. It is a trade essentially triangular and multilateral, with imports from some countries in excess of exports thereto, and with exports to other countries much larger than Canada's imports therefrom. Bilateral balancing of trade accounts with any particular country is impossible. That fact makes it difficult for Canada to accomplish much for the promotion of its trade, and to obtain a cutting down of adverse duties against its exports, through bilateral tariff agreements with other individual countries. Frequently as Canada has made such agreements it will be found that they have seldom resulted in lowering tariffs against Canadian goods except as may be accomplished by the application of a most favored nation clause in eliminating discrimination. Much more is to be hoped from multilateral arrangements such as now, it is hoped, are in prospect. For that reason it is imperative that Canada approach the trade conference this fall with a determination that the conference must be a success.

Go Ahead Signal for Grain Production

The go ahead signal for maximum grain production in western Canada was given during March by Prime Minister King in a statement dealing with the world food shortage and outlining special measures to be taken by Canada to meet it.

Farmers are urged to plan their production to obtain the maximum yield of food stuffs over the next three or four years. That disposed of a controversy on progress since the seriousness of the food situation was first exposed a few months ago as to whether or not farmers should be advised to increase wheat acreage in 1946 over that seeded in 1945. Presumably such an increase might mean cutting down the area to be summerfallow this year, or possibly some reduction in the acreage seeded to coarse grains. The Prime Minister has simply said that all the food stuffs that can be produced are wanted. He added that "we would not be assisting the world situation by concentrating on great increases of wheat acreage and thereby reducing the production of coarse grains needed for feed purposes. Coarse grains are already in relatively short supply. Further curtailment would restrict our livestock program."

Whether summerfallow acreage should be maintained or decreased is a matter on which Mr. King's statement makes no pronouncement. It is left to each farmer so to adjust his plans as to lead to the largest possible production.

The Prime Minister's statement is interesting in that it lays stress on production over several years, and is evidently based on the belief that the world's food emergency will not be over very quickly. Special measures, however, aimed at stepping up wheat shipments during the next few months, show that the immediate emergency is full recognized. That arises from the fact that both former reserves and the crops produced in 1945 have been exhausted or almost exhausted, in most countries. Some relief will be obtained as soon as the earliest crops, which will be of vegetables, are produced in 1946.

Continued on page 45

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NEIGHBORLY NEWS

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milk production from these cows are kept by Mr. Leskiw and he states they are promising a great showing.—Vilna, Alberta.

Well-known Pioneer Passes

H. L. Montgomery, 79, of Gladstone, Manitoba, recently passed away in the Winnipeg General hospital. Born in Walkerton, Ontario, in 1867, Mr. Montgomery came west in the early nineties and took up farming in south-western Manitoba. He operated a general store in Deloraine, coming to Winnipeg in 1925 where he held a position of president of Merchants Consolidated Limited. Mr. Montgomery was one of the original shareholders of the Grain Growers Grain Company and played a prominent part in the introducing of Durum wheat in southern Manitoba. In recent years he has been farming at Plumas and Gladstone. He was a very ardent temperance worker and for a number of years was research secretary of that organization.—Gladstone, Man.

Sixty-six Years on the Same Farm

Pete Patterson, of this district, has completed the unusual record of living 66 years on the same farm. Mr. Patterson was born on the farm that his father, the late Robert Patterson, homesteaded in 1878.—Rosebank, Man.

Horses Command Good Price

At the recent horse sale held in Brandon prevailing prices indicated that good horses still hold a spot in the post-war world. Gaston Deleau received highest price for a team of chestnuts weighing 3,300 pounds and sold for \$385.—Hartney, Man.

Loss to Curling Rink

In a fire of unknown origin the waiting room and a third of the Margaret Skating and curling rink were destroyed. Included in the loss were 18 pair of curling rocks and 30 pair of skates. A local bonspiel with an entry of 20 rinks was half completed at the time. The loss of the rink leaves a big gap in the social and athletic life of the community for the remainder of the winter. No doubt a big effort will be made to have a bigger and better rink in operation next winter.—Margaret, Man.

Local Pioneer Passes

The passing of J. Francis Ketcheson, a well-known local pioneer, is a serious loss to this district. Mr. Ketcheson was the son of an old Hastings County, Ontario, family, and was educated at Belleville. After spending some time in the United States he came west in 1904 and located at Regina, holding the position of blockman and collector for the Cockshutt Plow Company.

For many years he conducted a local implement agency in Wilkie and was councillor of the R. M. of Buffalo, Division 1, for eight years—1917 to 1925; secretary of the Narrow Lake Telephone Company; United Grain Growers local and Wilkie Agricultural Society.—Wilkie, Sask.

Veteran Purchases Stock

Roy Myers, of Hamlin, Alta., a local veteran of Canada's armed forces has returned after four years' service in Italy, France, Holland and Germany. He has purchased two head of Holsteins, a heifer Trailzand Golden Harvest, and a bull Trailzand Fancy Steps, related to the family circle of Holsteins of Hays Limited, of Calgary, from E. A. Bullis, of Elk Point, Alta.

* * *

Fred Leskiw, of the Quiet Nook Farm, in the Vilna district, has improved his stock of Holsteins by purchasing three cows from E. A. Bullis, of Elk Point; the Trailzand Romeo Alice, Trailzand Berdie Robin and Trailzand Berdie Sonja. These cows are of the Holstein family circle owned by Hays Limited of Calgary. Many Lakes Katy, a heifer from Mr. Neiberding, of St. Paul, Alta., being of the Colony Farms, Essondale, B.C., Holstein family circle. The records of

Farm Mechanics Repair School

The Farm Mechanics Repair School held at Willingdon was a real success. A class of 20 farm boys registered, with good results. A. C. Wagner, of Calgary, Alta., was the instructor. The school ended with a banquet in the New Willingdon Hotel sponsored by the Willingdon Board of Trade.

* * *

The Willingdon Rural Electrification is well underway, with the arrival of the first carload of poles. The plan is to electrify 50 farms, north of town, with wiring contracts let out to Andrew and Willingdon local men.—Willingdon, Alta.

Serious Garage Fire

Loss estimated roughly at almost \$7,000 was incurred at Picardville recently, when fire totally destroyed a garage belonging to Charles Grainger.

Almost every citizen in the village turned out to lend assistance, but it was impossible to attempt to halt the flames on the garage. However, by dint of piling snow, residents managed to keep flames from adjacent buildings, some of which were a scant 20 feet distant.—Picardville, Alta.

Represent School Area

J. Schwartz, Henry Ruf and Henry Schwartz, representing Stornoway School, Glasgow School, attended the Trustee's Convention held in Regina.

Many broom ball games have been played here this season, but the best game of all was played when the married men of the town trimmed the single men by a score of 3 to 0!

* * *

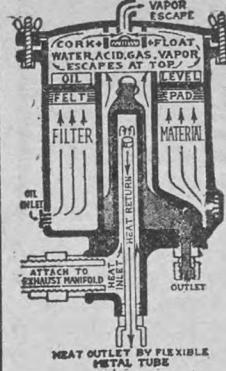
Dave Erhardt, a local veteran, has received his discharge from the armed forces and is now home again.—Stornoway, Sask.

Bonspiel Memories

The sound of the roaring game will never be stilled! The Inglis Curling Club finished their annual bonspiel amid the keenest excitement. There were nineteen rinks entered and the prizes went to the following:

Herb Liske's rink won first in the Grand Challenge, first in the Merchants' and the Grand Aggregate. Second in Grand Challenge went to A. McKay and third to Glassman, with fourth going to N. McKay. Second in the Merchant's went to N. McKay, third to R. Liske and fourth to T. Jackson. In the Citizens' R. Park's rink took first, second went to P. Zeprich, third to E. H. Armstrong and fourth to Denham. In the Mullens, Park took first, P. Zeprich second, Armstrong third and Lorimer fourth. Consolation went to J. Jackson first, Seifert second, R. Jackson third and Hansen fourth. Hard Luck prize was taken by A. Cipryk, the Sympathy by Jake Bizi and the Big End by N. McKay.—Inglis, Manitoba.

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BRADCLIFF SHELL PRODUCER 95% Calcium Carbonate

A better shell-making material, white in color, that greatly increases the quality and texture of egg shells at a lower cost than oyster shell. To the poultryman who ships, the added quality of the shell will prove a boon.

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BRADCLIFF SHELL PRODUCER has made a name for itself in less than two years.

Thousands of Egg Producers are now giving BRADCLIFF the preference because they find it BETTER and CHEAPER.

An All Canadian Product of outstanding Quality.

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BRADCLIFF Remember the Name

If your local dealer does not have it, write us for free sample and literature.

VERONA ROCK PRODUCTS LTD.
VERONA, ONTARIO



GO AHEAD SIGNAL

Continued from page 43

and when spring grass increases the supply of milk and meat. Acute need will reappear early in 1947, when the crops harvested this fall in European countries begin to run short.

It is the immediate need which has prompted the government to announce special measures to encourage prompt marketing of grain stored on farms. Presumably these measures, details of which are not available as this page goes to press, relate to income tax. It is well known that much grain, millions of bushels altogether, have remained stored on farms because farmers want to equalize their taxable income over a period of years.

The Prime Minister did not himself announce the guaranteed wheat price for the coming crop. However the minister of trade and commerce, the Hon. Mr. MacKinnon, announced a few days later that the wheat board initial price would be continued for another year on the basis of \$1.25. He also stated that while delivery quotas would be in effect to regulate the use of elevator space by farmers, there would be no overall limitation of wheat deliveries by farmers. Until Mr. MacKinnon's statement was made the only price guarantee farmers had for the coming crop was that made some time ago of a minimum wheat price which would not be allowed to fall below the basis of \$1.00 per bushel until July 31, 1950. That still stands and presumably the Wheat Board initial price for succeeding years will be reconsidered from year to year.

In the United States a high extraction rate for flour has been ordered to conserve wheat for human use. Such a gesture in Canada would probably be more dramatic than useful, for it would cut down the supply of mill feed and correspondingly increase the demand for feed grains. But the supply of wheat for domestic milling is to be cut by 10% over a period of six months. Millers will consequently have less flour to sell. Presumably the supply of bread will not be reduced and no housewives will go short of actual needs, but this step will probably force both to reduce, during the next few months, the supplies usually kept on hand.

The Prime Minister referred to the waste of food which takes place in Canada, and announced a campaign to reduce it in order to conserve food supplies for export. Readers of The Guide will have noted that United Grain Growers Limited did not wait for government announcement in this respect and that the March issue of this paper carried an advertisement urging action in this respect.

Large Wheat Exports from the U.S.A.

Wheat exports during the current crop year from the United States are expected to exceed those from Canada. Total shipments from this country may not pass a mark of 350,000,000 bushels. United States, which during the first

six months of the year exported 175,000,000 bushels is expected to reach a total of 400,000,000 bushels.

Price comparisons are somewhat difficult to make but Chicago prices, at the ceiling imposed by the United States Government have stood for some time at approximately \$1.80 a bushel in American funds which would roughly correspond with \$2.00 per bushel for No. 1 Northern at Port Arthur in Canadian funds, or 45 cents per bushel more than Canadian export ceiling of \$1.55. According to Broomhall American wheat at the Atlantic seaboard has been quoted at \$2.15 per bushel (Canadian) as against \$1.74% per bushel for Canadian wheat making a difference of approximately 40 cents per bushel. Apparently therefore this year's exports from Canada, if sold at the American level, would have been charged at approximately \$150,000,000 more than the actual price, representing the saving to overseas customers from the fact that Canadian export ceiling price in the United States, which applies to all wheat sold whether for domestic consumption or for export. Since the Government of Canada is financing the bulk of exports from this country following of the American price would have put an increased burden for financing of that amount on the Canadian treasury, or alternatively exports of Canadian commodities other than wheat and flour would have had to be cut down to that extent.

Seaboard quotations for wheat from Argentina and Australia have been close to the level of Canadian seaboard prices, making such wheat more expensive in Great Britain and in Europe to the extent of the difference in ocean freight rates indicating that those countries are tending to follow the American rather than the Canadian lead in prices.

At the beginning of the winter wheat prospects in the United States were considered excellent. The outlook for the winter wheat was so good that the possibility was discussed of the country again producing in 1946 more than 1,000,000,000 bushels of wheat. Recently dry weather and high winds have produced some soil blowing in Kansas, doing a certain amount of damage to winter wheat and impairing prospects for yield. Some officials of the department of agriculture at Washington began to discuss the possibility that the dust bowl experiences of a few years ago may again be in making in the central states. That idea is disputed in Kansas where a claim is made that the dust storms so far experienced are extremely mild in comparison with those of earlier years.

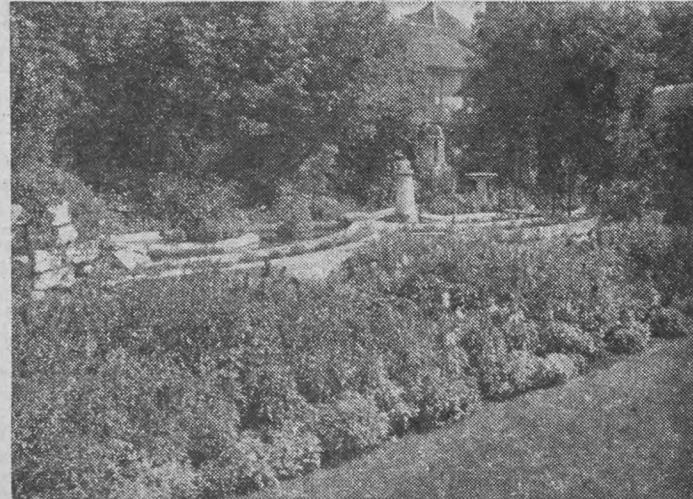
Figures will shortly be available as to the probable acreage of winter wheat to be harvested this year in the United States. There is always considerable abandonment so the harvested acreage falls short of that seeded by from 5% to 12%. The lost acreage is usually referred to as winter killed. Actually, however, most killing takes place during the spring. Winter wheat can survive a lot of cold weather in the winter. When, however, spring growth has been started, the wheat is highly susceptible to injury from frost and most especially to damage from ice sheets which sometimes form in the spring across the fields of grain.

Veterans' Notes

Nearly all our boys are back from overseas and we are very glad to report only a very few wounded and only one missing.

W. M. Rawlings (a returned veteran) and Miss E. Hunt are our most recently married couple. Walter had been overseas for the past three years.—Drop more, Man.

A Rural Garden Scene.



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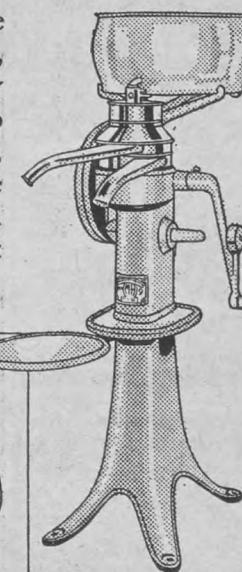
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Opportunities open up for you with the increased demand for eggs. Get started now with Soubry's Chicks. Their quality, high livability, early maturity, means the extra production of eggs needed for export . . . the extra profits for you. Order Today!

10% Deposit Books Order		Approved	R.O.P. Sired	100	50	25	100	50	25
W. Leg.	\$14.25	\$7.60	\$15.75	\$8.35					
W.L. Pull.	29.00	15.00	31.50	16.25					
W.L. Ckls.	3.00	2.00	4.00	2.50					
B. Rocks	15.25	8.10	16.75	8.85					
B.R. Pull.	26.00	13.50	29.00	15.00					
N. Hamps.	15.25	8.10	16.75	8.85					
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PRINGLE QUALITY CHICKS

R.O.P. Sired and Approved

Orders for Pringle Chicks this season have again broken all records. To avoid disappointment we strongly advise all who want May delivery to place their orders without delay.

1946 Alberta Chick Prices

Per 100 to May 17th	R.O.P. Ap- Sired proved
W. Leghorns	\$16.00
Leghorn Pullets	31.00
N. Hamps. Rocks, Reds	18.00 \$16.00
N.H. Rocks, Red Pullets	29.00 27.00
Le-horn Cockerels	3.00
Heavy Cockerels	9.00 9.00

For B.C. prices write our Chilliwack Hatchery. Our 1946, Fifteenth Anniversary Year, Catalog and Flock Record Book mailed on receipt of order or on request.

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Chilliwack, B.C.

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Write today for a Price List. White Leghorns, New Hampshires, Barred Rocks, R.I. Reds, Light Sussex, Black Australorps and Austra-Whites.

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quickly. An April shipment of Top Notch chicks will start your flock off right. First: Your pullets will be laying large eggs in time for the better markets. Second: Your cockerels will be plump and full grown at a time when poultry meat prices are highest. Third: You are assured of the best when you buy Top Notch chicks. Every chick whether pure breed or hybrid comes from proven breeders, pullorum tested and Government Approved. You owe it to yourself to investigate Top Notch Chicks today. Just write for our free catalog. It tells all and costs you nothing. Also two and three-week-old started chicks and 8 to 16-week-old floor raised pullets for immediate delivery.

Top Notch Chickeries, Guelph, Ontario.

BURNSIDE CHICKS

For foundation stock, flock improvement or commercial egg production are hard to beat.

31 years' poultry breeding and hatchery experience are behind Burnsides Chicks. Member Canadian R.O.P. Association.

Write today for illustrated detailed catalog of Burnsides Farm and Hatchery. Prices per 100

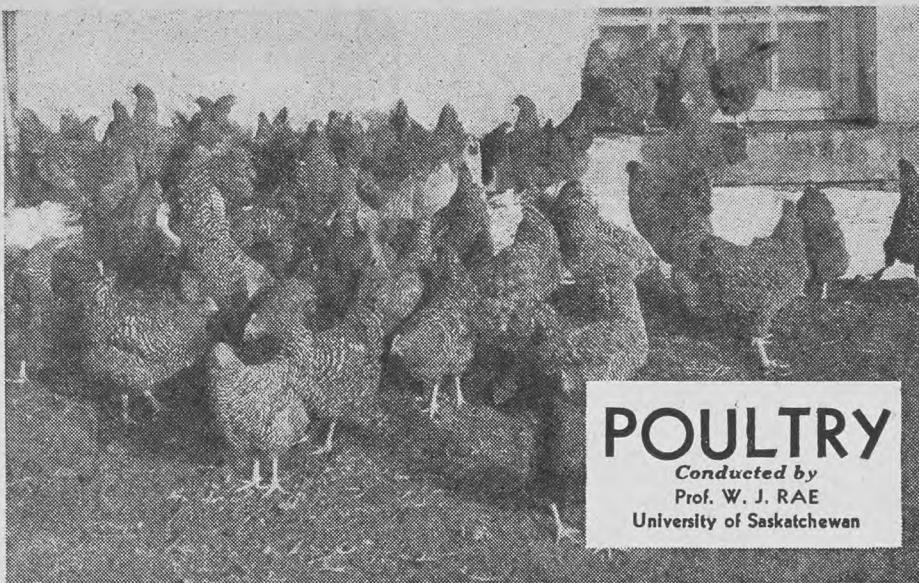
R.O.P. Sired Leghorns \$14.00 \$29.00
Grade XX R.O.P. Sired Leghorns 15.00 32.00
Approved Crossbreeds 14.00 29.00

Approved Hampshires and
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Heavy Breed Cockerels \$8.00 per 100
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Prices reduced after May 15.

Burnside Poultry Farm
A.E. POWELL HAMMOND, B.C.



POULTRY

Conducted by
Prof. W. J. RAE
University of Saskatchewan

Poultry allowed to fledge for themselves in early spring cannot get a balanced diet and darker yolks and thinner whites will result, which will lower the grades of eggs from the flock.

Summer Care of Layers

WITHIN the next month or so, many of the laying flocks will be allowed outside on range. Shortly after this change in management, there will probably be noted on the grading slips, an increase in the lower grades of eggs. The conclusion most frequently heard is that the green feed is responsible for the poor returns. Such an assumption is not entirely justified.

Too often when the birds are allowed outside, they are forced to fledge for themselves, as the dry mash mixture is either drastically reduced or completely eliminated. The layers are not able to balance their diet completely on green feed, insects, and grains. In order to satisfy their appetites, they are often forced to consume relatively large quantities of green feed. While this tender young green feed is very nutritious, too much in the diet results in darker yolks and thinner whites, both of which will reduce the grade of the egg produced.

The layers can be confined throughout the summer provided there is adequate ventilation in the house. Such a procedure will help greatly to maintain egg quality provided that a well-balanced diet is fed. For those who feel that it is necessary to allow their birds outside during the summer, a modified system is suggested. Confine the birds during the day until late afternoon. By that time, they will have just about completed their laying for the day and their appetites will have been fairly well satisfied—assuming, of course, they have had access to a good laying mash. The amount of green feed they will consume will not seriously affect the grade of egg produced. On wet days, keep the layers in the house to prevent the soiling of eggs by wet, muddy feet.

Feeding Baby Chicks

NOT so many years ago, the feeding of a special diet to baby chicks was not practised by the majority of our poultrymen. Today we find that an ever increasing number of chicks are being started on a chick mash or starter. This is a step in the right direction, but there is a tendency to discontinue it too soon. A great deal of research has been done on the proper feeding of chicks—the value of a well-balanced chick starter cannot be denied. If we all realized the value of such a diet at this time, perhaps more would be fed.

The brooding period which is usually considered to cover the first six weeks of the life of the chick is the most critical from many standpoints. With respect to feeding, it is the period in which the most economical gains are made, that is, the number of pounds of feed required to increase body weight by one pound is less than for any subsequent stage of growth. This is a forcing mash, for we want our birds to gain as much weight as possible in this short period of time. The most common argument against the continued use of a chick starter for six weeks is its high cost. It is true that the cost is higher than a growing mash, but nevertheless, it is actually more economical during this time because of the greater returns derived in heavier and more uniform growth. The amount consumed by a chick in six weeks is approximately

two pounds, so actually the cost is not high when we consider that it will take another 23-28 pounds of feed to bring these birds to maturity. Plan on 200 pounds of chick starter for each 100 chicks placed in the brooder house.

Rearing Costs

ONE question frequently asked is how much does it cost to raise a bird to maturity. In order to answer this question it would be well to consider some of the factors involved. Our costs will cover the period from the time the chicks are hatched, until the pullets commence production and the cockerels are marketed in the fall. The time involved will vary from five to seven months, depending on the time of hatch, management during the growing season, and the breed of birds kept.

To arrive at this cost, the total expenditure must be divided by the original number of chicks—not by the survivors. Thus it is advantageous to keep mortality to a minimum. Practise strict sanitation throughout the growing season. Such things as keeping the young and old stock separate at all times are very important, as the latter may spread disease. Raise the young birds on clean ground, that is, land which has not been used by poultry for two years. If it is necessary to use the same land two years in succession, plow it up and seed it to a quick growing crop such as oats. This will provide green feed and later on, shade from the sun.

Culling should be a continuous process. Do not hesitate to dispose of any sick or crippled chicks, because treatment of individual birds is not worth while. There is the possibility, too, that these sick birds may be disease carriers. The sooner they are disposed of, the less will be the loss. Separate the sexes when time comes to move them out of the brooder house, because the pullets will do much better by themselves.

Control of Lice

WITH the advent of warm weather, the problem of control and eradication of the common chicken louse often causes much concern. Sodium fluoride or derris root powder are effective control measures. If either of these powders is used, it is necessary to handle the birds individually.

If the birds are not heavily infested, a sprinkling of the powder in the fluff around the vent will be sufficient. If heavily infested, it will be necessary to apply some powder under the wings. Black Leaf 40 may also be used. It is applied in a thin line along the roosts just before the birds go to roost. The fumes released by the action of the heat from the body of the birds will kill the lice. It is important to provide ample ventilation in the house, as the fumes, if concentrated, will affect the birds.

It is important to remember that only the louse and not the eggs are destroyed by treatment. This necessitates a second application a week later, otherwise, the first treatment will not be of much value. When hens are used for hatching or brooding, dusting must be done two weeks in advance of their receiving the chicks. If the chicks become infested, do not dust, but use a little lard or carbolicated vaseline, and rub it on top of their heads.

Canada's Largest Hatcheries

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IMMEDIATE DELIVERY on most breeds for late March. Thousands of New Hampshire Chicks still available. Also Special Mating Barred Rocks and some other breeds. State second choice where possible. Send deposit or payment in full.

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R.O.P. Sired 100 50 25 100 50 25
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31.00 16.00 8.00 N.H. Pull. 28.00 14.50 7.25
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Guaranteed 100% live arrival. Pullet 96% acc.

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Several hundred R.O.P. Pedigreed Wingbanded Cockerel Chicks purchased from and hatched by outstanding B.C., Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick Breeders and breeder hatcheries, and distributed through all Hambley branches.

WHITE LEGHORNS, 60c
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Four weeks \$1.00 Six weeks \$1.25

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HAMBLEY R.O.P. FARMS SWAN LAKE, MAN.

5,000 day-old chicks each week plus a limited number of Started Chicks from our brooding section and range colony houses. We have over 3,000 birds, many on Official R.O.P. Trapnest. Extra quality costs only a cent or so per bird more. Write for further information.

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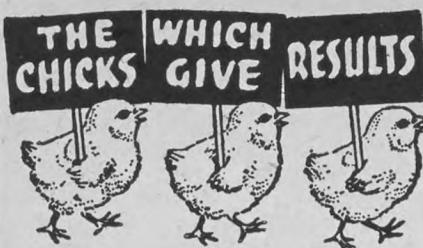
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15.75	8.35	4.45		14.25	7.60	4.05
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Regina "RR"	Approved			Regina Approved		
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29.00	15.00	7.75		26.00	13.50	7.00
16.75	8.85	4.70		15.25	8.10	4.30
29.00	15.00	7.75		26.00	13.50	7.00
12.00	6.50	3.25		11.00	6.00	3.00
Guaranteed 100% live arrival.	Pullets	96% acc.		Pullets	96% acc.	
Regina "RR"	Approved			Regina	Approved	
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Regina Electric Hatcheries

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R.O.P. SIRED CHICKS

All Stewart Leghorns, Rocks, Reds and New Hamps. are **Special Quality R.O.P. Sired**. Reduced prices after May 15th: Leghorn unsex. \$14; Rock, Red, Hamp. unsex. \$16; Leghorn Pullets \$28; Rock, Red, Hamp. Pullets \$26; Leg. Cockerels \$3.00; Hvy. Bd. Cockerels \$9.00.

Hear Melody Mustangs Tuesday nights, 7:00 and Old-Time Music, Friday nights, 9:30, M.S.T., over CFCN, Calgary, 1010 kc.

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1946 Bred-to-Lay XXX Profit Approved
Light Sussex \$18.75; Buff Orpingtons \$18.75;
White Rocks \$17.75; White Wyandottes \$17.75;
Barred Rocks \$16.75; New Hampshires \$16.75;
Rhode Island Reds \$16.75; White Leghorns \$15.75;
Black Minorca \$17.75 per 100.
100% live delivery guaranteed. Send \$5.00 deposit per 100, balance later. Free circular. Pullets 96% acc. Barred Rock Pullets, \$27 per 100.

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THE GOLDEN FLEECE

Continued from page 9

handle, of false packing. We remember that as recently as three years ago it was quite usual to find fleeces stuffed with grey and black wool or tags. It is the writer's personal opinion that only when the Canadian farmer prepares his clip in a similar manner to the Australian farmer can he hope to get on an open market equivalent prices for his wools." It is hoped that the four cent bonus will be continued on the 1946 clip with possibly "still more teeth" put into the regulations.

Appreciating the comparative dearth of finished goods on store shelves, and realizing the restless attitude of the buying public, I have made it my business to thoroughly investigate and analyze the current situation, and accordingly the balance of this article will be devoted to a summarization of my findings. The world is experiencing the worst clothing shortage in recorded history and the Jugo-Slavian representative to the U.N.O. apparently did not exaggerate when he told of families who had to send one person of their number to work or to market because the others had insufficient clothing to leave their often partly destroyed homes. Such statements have been corroborated by Red Cross workers who have been there and hence any current Canadian shortages are accentuated because of assistance rendered abroad in addition to the completion of any military contracts since VE and VJ Days. For instance, in the course of one year alone, the Canadian textile industry supplied for military use no less than 6,000,000 yards of cloth to Great Britain, as well as immense quantities of socks, stockings and underwear.

Early in the war the Dominion government put all raw materials under control, with the exception of cotton which was in very heavy supply, and the stocks of which were not endangered by hostilities. These control measures included wool tops, and yarns of wool, rayon and cotton, and all were channelled into 1, military goods; 2, essential civilian goods; 3, anything else. It soon developed, of course, that only military and essential civilian goods were under production, and as a result any miscellaneous stocks in the hands of wholesalers and retailers rapidly disappeared. In 1942 the Wartime Prices and Trade Board ordered a complete survey of the goods required for civilian use and then directed the mills in what they were to produce. Arising from such direction the actual supply of essential items was greater during the war than prewar, but due to increased labor payrolls and mounting farm buying power no surpluses ever developed. In fact scarcity has been the order of the day for the past three years.

It is this scarcity angle to which I now wish to devote a little attention, and particularly since we still have it with us. Mr. H. G. Watson, president, Canadian Woollen and Knit Goods Association, wrote recently: "While all but odds and ends of wartime production are out of the way, the effects of the war are still curtailing the volume of civilian production below the level required to meet the demands of the public. Shortages of such goods are not confined to Canada. Agents from every country in the world are arriving in Canada in attempts to purchase textiles because of shortages in their own countries, but Canada has nothing to export at this stage until the needs of her own civilian population are satisfied.

"The civilian supply of wool cloth for clothing, blankets and knitted goods such as underwear and outerwear is still in critically short supply as compared to demand, but the immediate demand is greater than ever before in the history of Canada. It is hoped, however, that by the second quarter of 1946 this situation will have begun to right itself."

The reasons for such shortages are not hard to find as I discovered when mak-

ing a careful survey of the situation, and here are some of them.

1. The discharge of thousands from the services much more rapidly than was expected. These men and women with priorities in hand and with ready cash have bought most freely of all types of clothing. In many cases, too, they have made heavy purchases for other members of the family, all of which is indicated by the skyrocketing of retail sales volume ever since last September.

2. On arriving home the boys have found their old civilian garments either too small, moth-eaten or else worn out by the kid brother, and hence an immediate stampede for new things.

3. On the home front the continuous drive for used clothing has left all wardrobes more bare than ever in our lifetime and as we become increasingly shabby we go to almost any length to secure something on our own behalf.

4. It is doubtful if Canadian buying power has ever been higher and more general than at present. War wages and good prices for farm products have put more money in more pockets, and with luxury goods and items non-existent the money is used for essentials immediately they become available.

The net results for months has been that practically all types of clothing for men, women and children melt like snow under a summer sun just as soon as they reach the storekeepers' shelves. Many in the trade doubt if they will be fully caught up with the situation by Christmas 1946, although most of them hope the worst will be over by next fall. All seem agreed that the shortages generally will continue through the spring and summer of the present year at least.

Statistics of Canadian mill production supplied from highly reliable sources and given in the accompanying tables show that in knitted underwear during the four-year period—1942 to 1945—inclusive, the production for civilian use was greater than in prewar years—the production of socks and stockings for the same four-year period was fully equal to prewar years—the production of woollen and worsted cloth was well maintained in the years 1940 to 1943, and prewar average production has been considerably exceeded during 1944 and 1945. In the light of these figures one may well ask, "Well, why can't we find some socks, stockings and underwear in the stores?" Public demand is the answer, and only today (February 25, 1946) this is exemplified in an Arrow Shirt advertisement which reads: "We're working at top production but we haven't yet caught up with public demand." Furthermore, it must be remembered that in prewar years Canada imported large quantities of cloth and other finished goods. There is barely a trickle of such imports coming forward yet. Accordingly we are entirely dependent upon our own production and likely to remain that way for a few months at least.

Canadian Production

Knitted Underwear (In dozens)

Military Civilian Total

5 year average	Military	Civilian	Total
1935-9	(Nil)	2,991,701	2,991,701
1942	390,863	3,265,694	3,656,557
1943	442,951	2,903,295	3,346,246
1944	228,900	3,107,345	3,336,245
1945	183,164	3,213,838	3,397,002

Socks and Stockings (In dozens)

5 year average			
1935-9	(Nil)	7,827,068	7,827,068
1942	308,888	8,353,768	8,662,656
1943	572,774	7,810,905	8,383,679
1944	478,680	7,820,795	8,299,475
1945	383,462	7,971,001	8,354,463

Woollen and Worsted Cloth (In yards)

1938	14,346,000	14,346,000
1939	597,000	16,593,000
1940	9,959,000	16,435,000
1941	4,746,000	22,413,000
1942	15,247,000	12,955,000
1943	13,155,000	13,864,000
1944	5,479,285	19,520,715
1945	6,276,318	20,723,682

Finally, a word about the labor situation. There are those who feel that a low scale of wages in the textile industry has had something to do with slowing down production but the story of our Canadian output would seem to belie that contention. True, as indicated by the accompanying Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Employment Index Chart,

BOLIVAR

When you order Bolivar Chicks you get the benefit of 34 years' experience in breeding, hatching, and handling chicks.

WHITE LEGHORNS
NEW HAMPSHIRE
BARRED ROCKS
LEGHORN-HAMPSHIRE CROSS

Illustrated folder and prices on request.

There are more Bolivar chicks sold than any strain in B.C.

"THERE MUST BE A REASON"

BOLIVAR HATCHERIES LIMITED
R.R. No. 4
NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

A modern sanitary hatchery supported by a breeding farm operated under Government supervision.

TURKEY POULTS

If you want top quality meat type turkeys, try our CO-OP BROAD BREASTED BRONZE stock. Due to restrictive feed orders our poulty supply is greater than demand for the first time in our history. We are an association of turkey and chicken growers organized to produce quality chicks and poulties for our members through Association owned breeding farms and hatcheries. Pullorum free stock. Poulties 65c U.S. funds, f.o.b. Bellingham. Eggs 25c.

WASHINGTON CO-OPERATIVE CHICK ASSOCIATION

1220 Central Ave., Bellingham, Wash.

"More and More CHICKS Needed" to help feed the hungry world" (Feb. 7 in Toronto Globe & Mail). "President Truman in Washington bluntly warned . . . unless countries managed to ship enough food to stricken countries 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 persons may starve to death." Tweddie Time-Tested Chicks are a sure thing for 1946 . . . more than ever before it will pay you to order chicks from an old established hatchery. Why? Because with the need of food so urgent, we dare not gamble on slow growth or high mortality. We need live, growable, layable chicks; the kind that will produce eggs or meat next fall. You can get that kind of chicks at Tweddie. Our record . . . 21 years in the poultry business. Also two and three-week-old started chicks and 6 to 16-week-old floor raised pullets for immediate delivery.

TWEDDIE CHICK HATCHERIES Limited
Fergus, Ontario.

R.O.P. SIRED

White Leghorns — Barred Rocks

Approved

New Hampshires and Leghorn-Hamps. Crosses

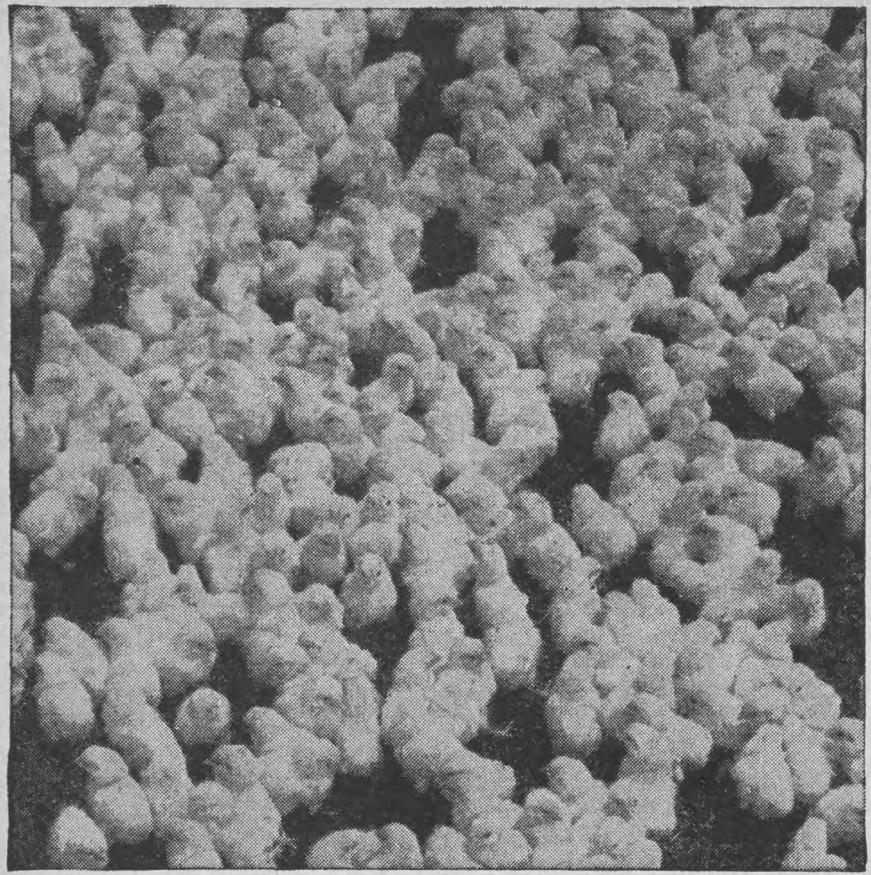
Order May & June Chicks Now

Write for our Annual Catalogue and 1946 Price List

J. H. MUFFORD & SONS

Box G MILNER, B.C.





How many will be in the Picture A YEAR FROM NOW?

Fred Chatburn, Chatburn Leghorn Farm, Aurora, says:

"My pullets were hatched in May and they averaged 5 1/2 pounds in October. I start my chicks on Quaker Ful-O-Pep Chick Starter and follow up with Quaker Ful-O-Pep Growing Mash using the Ful-O-Pep Save-on-Feed Plan. My Ful-O-Pep raised pullets are big-framed, husky and capable of sustained heavy egg production all fall and winter."

A true test of a chick starter can only be made on the ability of these chicks to live and lay eggs at maturity. Only hens that have been correctly fed as chicks and pullets have the physical strength, development and stamina to become heavy and consistent layers that profitably produce for even one complete season.

The many plus features of Quaker Ful-O-Pep Chick Starter and the Ful-O-Pep Feeding Plan grow strong, big-framed pullets that develop into profitable layers because—

- Quaker Ful-O-Pep Chick Starter contains a special VITAMIN BOOST for health and rapid growth.
- Built around a base of 94% digestible oatmeal, Quaker Ful-O-Pep Chick Starter has a special body and bone building value.
- The Ful-O-Pep Feeding Plan is designed to encourage the proper development of digestive organs, thus laying the foundation of a long and productive life.



FUL-O-PEP Feed of Champions

THE HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS ARE GONE!

The Wincharger on the left, supplies electricity for a radio and a few lights.

Yes—we still make them—and sell them by the thousands!

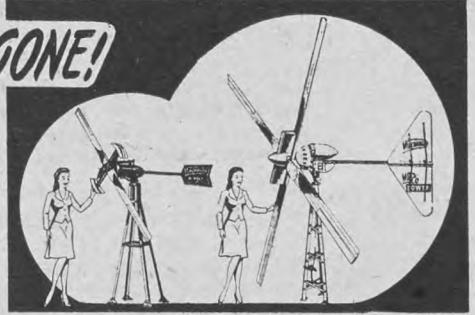
But—are you sure you entirely realize just how far Wincharger engineering and production have advanced since this radio charger first appeared a dozen years ago?

TODAY—the 32-volt WINCO POWER Wincharger, on the right, with a 12-foot, 4-blade propeller, actually provides a full-sized electric plant that will run a highly electrified farm or ranch.

TODAY—the WINCO POWER Wincharger is thoroughly-engineered, and mass-produced in a big, modern factory, by an important manufacturer with a world-wide distributing organization.

WINCHARGER CORPORATION
Dept. D-8 SIOUX CITY 6, IOWA, U. S. A.
Gentlemen: I would like to know more about Wincharger farm electric plants.

NAME _____
P. O. _____
PROVINCE _____



WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WINCO-POWER WINCHARGER
Just Mail the Coupon NOW

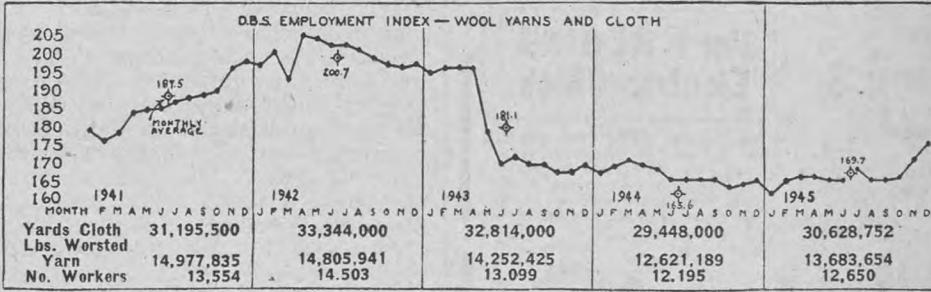
there was a steady decline in the number of employed textile workers from early in 1942 until the month of January 1945, but since then the index has been gradually climbing again and the future is increasingly bright.

Wages rates in the woollen and knit goods industry have increased substantially over prewar levels, the "Labour Gazette" reporting an increase from the 1939 level of 36.6 per cent in woollen yarn cloth and 52.8 per cent in the hosiery, underwear and knit goods sections. In 1940 and part of 1941 the available unemployed labor supply was allowed to flow freely into any industry. Expansion was paramount and the textile industry was able to increase its workers at a rate which permitted production of war requirements without unduly curtailing production of essential civilian goods. By early 1942 all free labor had been absorbed and in order to attract still more labor from civilian to war production there commenced a lifting of wages rates in munitions and other war plants. Wages in the textile industry were frozen and until some priority could be established the drain was terrific. This drain was not arrested until the middle of 1943, by which time the damage was done. Since the necessary adjustments were made and certain increases permitted, the industry has been holding its own and now, as already noted, the labor situation is on the upturn.

While these industries are "light in-

dustries," which employ a large proportion of women, in contrast to "heavy industries" such as lumbering, paper-making, steel-working and building, which employ mainly men, they are highly mechanized industries which require a large number of key men on maintenance and machinery adjustments. During the war a very large proportion of key men were drawn into the services. The effect of the re-absorption of returned men has not as yet been felt in production, and in addition there are still a considerable number of trained textile men in the services. In view of the shortages of civilian textiles it is hoped that every effort will be made by government bodies to see that such men are returned to their civilian production jobs as promptly as possible.

All in all it appears that we are now becoming geared to substantial wool and textile production in Canada for our own peace time needs. But its future and the future of thousands of sheep farmers, as well as tens of thousands of workers in city factories, depend upon the attitude of the average Canadian towards the materials we produce at home. Why not recognize that we, too, can produce fine textiles from Canadian raw materials—textiles that can match those manufactured beyond our shores? Let's get away from the inferiority complex towards items that carry a Canadian label instead of an imported name.



The Terror That Flieth

by
ROBT. J. RODER

TURKEY raisers beware! Beware of what? Among other things beware of the great horned owl. During the past few months at least a dozen turkeys have been killed in our district by owls. And the tragic part of it is that many of these turkeys were choice selected gobblers and hens which were being kept for breeding purposes. They will in many cases not be replaced and there will be far fewer turkeys next fall to sell. The turkey hasn't been born that is too big for the demon of the woods to kill. A gobbler may weigh 30 pounds or more but when Mr. Owl clamps those one and a half inch long talons through his head or neck he is a goner.

And this is no bush district at all, but plain open prairie with scattered planted windbreaks and a few groves of native poplar and willow. Once upon a time there were no horned owls here whatever. Now it is plain to be seen that it is no longer safe to allow turkeys to roost out on the ridge of a building or on a scaffold.

What is to be done about it? I think we will have to clip the wings of our turkey breeding stock so that they will be unable to fly up on high perches where the owls will get them. I also think it would pay to build a pen out of poultry wire in which there was a shelter, with roosts under a roof and netting run from edges of roof to the walls of the pen, so as to make it completely enclosed. It would be a good idea to train the young turkeys to go in

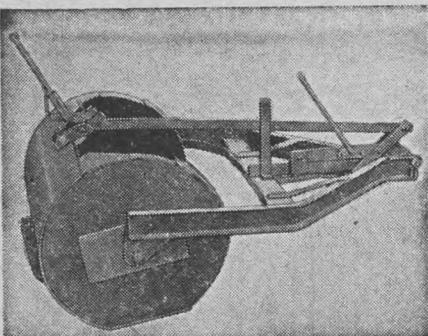


there for the night and then there would not be much trouble with them in the fall. The pen should have a door that could be closed at night to keep out predators. This would also enable a person to prevent the turkeys from wandering away from the yard too early in the morning and ending up in the jaws of some waiting coyote.

Besides this I am afraid we will have to go gunning for these ferocious owls. They can take a lot of lead so try to work up for a close shot. With a scattergun, shooting from the side or back seems to be more effective than frontal shots on account of Mr. Owl's very thick chest muscles. A good .22 will penetrate them from any direction. Some people advocate jump traps on high poles, but use your own judgment about that as one is bound to catch some useful smaller birds and a lot of our short-eared mouse-eating owls.

SUCCESS ROTARY SOIL MOVERS

Are built in many sizes for use with farm tractors, also a size to suit your tractor.



You save by owning a Success Soil Mover.

Heretofore, for many on the land, moving soil was difficult and often impossible. Now hitch your tractor to your Success soil mover, and large quantities of soil are quickly moved, and cheaply. The much needed dug-out can soon be made, or the dam you have longed for becomes a reality. Pot holes are soon filled, cellars and root storage excavated, drift soil moved to where it produces. Maybe you can load sand or gravel for hauling by truck, and many use these valuable machines for land levelling. Others use Success soil movers to make drainage ditches. Still others build dikes. There seems no limit to the many and varied jobs you can do when you hitch your tractor to a Success soil mover.

Many of these soil movers have proven a helpful source of income from rentals earned.

Hundreds of these machines are now serving the Rural Municipalities of Western Canada doing road repair and other work.

You also, can improve your land and increase your income with a Success soil mover.

Write today and get in line for early delivery!

**SUCCESS AUTOMATIC LAND LEVELLER
COMPANY, LIMITED**
Dept. C.G. Medicine Hat, Alta.

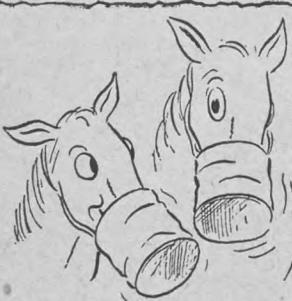
Winnipeg Dealer:

JAMIESON FARM EQUIPMENT CO.

King and Sutherland
All Sizes Success Soil Movers carried in Stock

Become a Detective

Men, Women over 16, Learn Detective, Secret-Service. Work home or travel. Write Maurice S. Julien, Box 25, Station T, Montreal.



"The boss is growing some good oats these days."

"No wonder. He treats his seed with Ceresan. It protects against smut and other seed and soil-borne diseases. He gets bigger crops too."

CERESAN
Seed Disinfectant for
WHEAT-OATS-FLAX-BARLEY



Controls
Smut, Bunt,
Seedling
Blight,
Seed and
Root Rot.

BUY FROM
YOUR DEALER

CANADIAN INDUSTRIES
LIMITED

CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED
FERTILIZER DIVISION

In Dollars and Cents

By W. C. HOPPER

IT is not so many years ago, in fact the idea is still prevalent that in planning for the future of the children of a farm family the son who appears to be the least talented is the one who should be encouraged to continue his father's vocation as a farmer. The sons who seem brighter at school should be given whatever assistance the family can provide to continue their education in secondary schools with a view to their entering some urban business career or perhaps a profession.

In some rural areas it is still often a subject of controversy as to whether or not a farm boy who intends to make farming his life's work really needs more than a public school education. Too often it is felt that anything is good enough for the farmer. I have heard the mother of a farm family, in speaking about one of her sons, say, "It's good enough for John, he's just a plain farmer."

A peculiar philosophy and a set of convictions that farm people have held and have had to fight for centuries is that the agrarian population of the world have been considered by others and by themselves an inferior group of people. Farm people are not the work horses for the rest of the world.

To some people farming is just a way of life, but those who are best informed know that farming must be considered a business—and a complex one. The farm operator who wishes to be a success must not only possess health and strength and technical skill, but he must know and employ good business methods.

The young farmers who possess a technical education acquired in an agricultural college are as a rule more successful than those who do not have this training. This fact is based on experience. Such an education is not a guarantee of success and it will not make up for poor health, but educated farmers have many advantages.

A few years ago a study of 248 dairy farmers under 50 years of age in New York State showed that 135 who had no formal schooling, or only a common or public school education had on the average, after paying farm expenses, an annual net income for their labor and management of about \$400 plus the use of the farm home for living and plus the products obtained from the farm, such as milk, vegetables, some meat, eggs, fruits and fuel and after allowing a suitable wage for the unpaid family labor. The 96 dairy farmers who had a high-school education had, on the average, a net income of nearly \$1,000, while the 17 who had taken a short course or a two or four year course in an agricultural college had a net income in excess of \$1,200.

A technical education is an aid to more efficient production and increases the satisfactions of farm life because the farmer has a more complete knowledge of how he should carry on his farming operations and why he does the things that are necessary to produce crops and animal products. Moreover, a technical agricultural education provides an alternative means of employment if the man is unsuited to farm work or the farm proves unsatisfactory from a financial viewpoint. Education pays in farming as in most other businesses.

While a part of the differences in the results obtained by the agricultural college group may have been due to superior natural ability, it is significant that this group of farmers were operating larger farms, obtaining higher production per acre and per cow and had made more adjustments in their farming business to meet changed economic conditions than had farmers in the other groups. The agricultural college group were trained in the sciences of animal and crop production and in the science of farm management and they were putting their technical knowledge into practice.

With the new world-wide interest in feeding the hungry, the vocation of food production has been elevated to the higher plane amongst the many occupations of mankind.

THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD

FARMERS' BULLETIN

POULTRY SALES

Effective March 7, a maximum charge of two cents per pound above the wholesale ceiling price will be allowed on sales of less than carload lots of dressed poultry, either graded or ungraded, when made direct to public eating places.

Another order sets prices, both retail and wholesale, for authorized portions of either frozen or fresh cut-up chicken or fowl. All charges are included in the prices, and slight differentials are shown by periods and zones. The periods are January 1 to March 31, April 1 to August 31, and September 1 to December 31. The zones are designated (1) which includes British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, and (2) the Prairie Provinces. For the remainder of the year the retail prices are:

Description of Authorized Portion	In Area (1) Eastern Canada and B.C.			
	April 1 to Aug. 31	Sept. 1 to Dec. 31	Chicken	Fowl
Leg.....	c. per lb.	c. per lb.	c. per lb.	c. per lb.
Breast.....	83	67	77	61
Back.....	83	73	77	67
Wing.....	21	16	15	10
Heart or Gizzard.....	36	36	30	30
Liver.....	36	36	30	30
	76	76	70	70

In Area (2) prices are three cents lower in each case than in Area (1) from April 1 to August 31, and two cents lower from September 1 to the end of the year.

More specific descriptions of these portions are as follows:



The gizzard must have contents and lining removed. Wings must be removed at the socket joint and must include all wing meat.

Legs must be removed at the hip joint and include the complete thigh, thigh meat and oyster but not the ilium or ischium bones.

The breast is the section made after removing wings and legs by cutting along the outside of the oyster socket ilium and through the ribs where they connect with the spine.

The back is what remains after wings, legs and breast have been removed. The back includes the neck.

This order came into force March 5 last.

REMOVAL OF VEGETABLE SUBSIDIES

The per ton subsidies formerly paid by the Agricultural Food Board during 1945 on tomatoes, peas, corn, and green and waxed beans for processing, will not be paid on the 1946 crop. Nor will the per dozen subsidy, formerly payable by Commodity Prices Stabilization Corporation Limited, be paid on any of the above-mentioned products invoiced and shipped after the following dates, regardless of pack years: peas, May 31; green and waxed beans, June 30; tomatoes and tomato juice (largely 31 gals.), August 31. Instead, it is expected there will be increases in canners' maximum ceiling prices to substantially compensate for the reduction in subsidies on the 1946 crop.

JAM SUBSIDY REMOVED

On and after March 1, subsidy payments to manufacturers on sales of jams and jellies will be discontinued, and adjustments in ceiling prices equivalent will be allowed. This means the maximum retail price will be raised by approximately 4 cents on the standard 2 pound (24 fluid ounce) jars but adjustments will vary according to variety, grade and size of container.

EDIBLE BEEF TALLOW

The general tight supply situation on lard and shortening has stimulated consumer purchases of beef tallow. According to zone, consumer purchase prices of from 16 to 18 cents are effective as of March 1.

RATION NEWS

Ration Book No. 6 is being prepared for distribution to Canadians in the Fall. This is necessary owing to the critical world food shortage, and because meat and sugar ration coupons in the 1945 book will be used up by that time. As in the past, distribution will be in the hands of the Local Ration Boards.

The pink sugar ration coupons numbered 46 to 70 and meat coupons M1 to M28 are cancelled as of March 31. As in March there will be three sugar-preserves coupons valid in April (see note).

FARMERS' RATION COUPONS

	Butter	Meat	Sugar-Preserves
April 4.....	R-5	31	S-5
April 11.....	—	32	—
April 18.....	R-6	33	S-6 and S-7
April 25.....	—	34	—



NOTE:—Although pink sugar coupons numbered 46 to 70 expire March 31, persons who have saved up a few coupons to buy maple syrup or maple sugar may, prior to that date, turn them in to the Local Ration Board in exchange for vouchers. Vouchers must be obtained because it is illegal to send loose coupons through the mail when buying maple products. Until May 31, 80 fluid ounces of maple syrup may be purchased with one sugar-preserves coupon; after May 31 it will buy 48 ounces of maple syrup.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS OF ANY OF THE ABOVE ORDERS APPLY TO THE NEAREST OFFICE OF THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD



"Boy - am I glad I saw my Bank Manager!"

"Betty and I were worried . . . we were urged to invest our savings, including my service gratuities, in what we thought might be a good business proposition. My bank manager showed me why it wasn't so good . . . maybe saved us from losing all we have!"



If you are an ex-serviceman, getting re-established in civilian life you will find your local Bank Manager a useful man to consult.

He is familiar with local business conditions and opportunities; he is glad to give helpful information to any veteran who comes to see him.

He knows the hopes and fears, joys and worries of small business men, wage-earners and salaried workers, because he has been talking to them over many years—considering their problems, lending them money, rendering them service in many ways. He'll be glad to do the same for you.

Why not talk to him at the first opportunity? Veterans all over Canada are saying: "*Boy—am I glad I saw my Bank Manager!*"



SCOUTING AROUND

Continued on page 7

do very well, but are harder to get started than broad-leaved trees. Out of 1,000 to 1,500 that had been planted on the Anderson farm, 200 have come through, the oldest of which were seven years old.

Fourteen to 16 feet are allowed between the rows of trees, which are set six feet apart in the rows, and eventually will be thinned to 12 feet. With a tree belt on the west side of the farmstead consisting of six rows of trees, the belt is just about 100 feet wide, permitting of tractor cultivation. Using a tractor in the tree belt and among the fruit trees, and a horse cultivator for the garden, one man can go over the whole area in one day, whereas it would take two or three days for a man to do the necessary hoeing around the trees in order to keep them reasonably clean. On this farm, grass was not in evidence around the fence lines, while around the trees the same condition prevailed. "Everybody can find time to keep trees growing healthily," we learned; and I suppose the truth of this statement will be evident only to those persons who really want trees badly enough to take care of them.

The tree belt consists, on the outer or west side, of a row of a caragana. Next to this are two rows of maple and evergreens, alternating in the rows. Next comes a row of ash and elm, and on the inside, two rows of ash and elm with originally a maple between each two trees. The evergreens are mostly spruce. There were, however, one or two Scotch pines, and later an additional 100 were planted.

Inside the woodlot was the original windbreak, consisting of four rows planted four feet apart each way. These original trees were not pruned or trimmed at first, but a few years ago they were trimmed to some extent to permit of easy working. At first, too, the soil under the tree belt was covered with straw to retain moisture, but it was found that the straw acted like a thatched roof and turned the water off. It was therefore turned over once a year, but by the time of my visit had completely disappeared. First plantings were made in 1930.

Among the fruits, the raspberries are the only fruits receiving any water. Chief, frequently found most valuable for hardiness, is the poorest growing variety on the Anderson farm, while Viking was described as "by far the best." Latham is rated second best, while the fruit of Herbert is small.

Some native Manitoba plums were bearing their first crop in 1945, planted in October, 1941. Incidentally, I learned that fall planting, even when the soil was very dry and no water was used, resulted in every tree or plant coming through. The main Anderson fruit orchard was planted in the spring. Two to four pails of water were used for each hole, and again no trees were lost.

Among the apples and the crabs we noticed a well laden tree of Heyer No. 12, an apple that is quite popular over a wide area on the prairies. The tree was in its fourth growing season, having been planted in the spring of 1942. The Brooks No. 26 plum was bearing quite a few fruits of large size.

The final interesting point worth noting was a field of sorghum being grown for feed, a mile or so away from the buildings. The dry weather had not given the crop much of a chance last year, and it was pretty uneven. Nevertheless, in normal years, when the drought is not so much in evidence, sorghum should provide a very welcome addition to the succulent feed crops so much to be desired where dairy cows are kept.—H.S.F.

Science Wars With Grasshoppers

ENTOMOLOGY is the study of insects. There are probably more species or kinds among the insects of the world than in any other branch of the animal kingdom. Insects therefore are important, and there are probably many thousands of persons throughout the world whose occupation is the study of them. They are called entomologists.

I wanted to locate two in British Columbia (entomologists) and to do so, found it necessary to drive 13 miles north of Kamloops, for the most part following a trail that crossed very rough and unoccupied range land. Eventually, we reached what had been an old, abandoned school house, and there discovered R. Buckell, Officer-in-Charge, Field Crops Insect Investigations, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Kamloops, together with Professor George Spencer of the Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver. The old cabin had been salvaged with odd items picked up here and there. A homemade electric lighting system had been installed; and in the midst of a heavily infested grasshopper area the two entomologists were engaged in research with grasshopper parasites.

If one could fully understand all natural law, one would probably discern a very finely adjusted balance between all forms of life. The existence of parasites is one type of control utilized by nature to prevent some one form of life from destroying all the others, since parasites live on other creatures. There are literally thousands of kinds of insects for example, ranging in size from a giant moth, nearly a foot in width with wings extended, down to the tiniest insect which can only be clearly seen with a microscope, or a strong magnifying glass. Many of these kinds prey upon other kinds, and in studying how to control insect pests of crops and animals, entomologists search out and try to increase the numbers of parasites preying upon the insects that are injurious.

Thus it was that we found Messrs. Buckell and Spencer carefully searching for and recording the existence of a group of flies that are known as flesh flies, because they feed on flesh. Thirteen kinds of these are known in North America, of which ten have been found on the Entomological Station at Lac

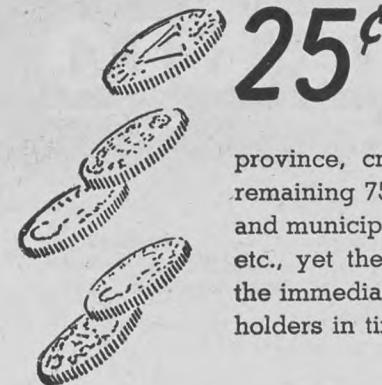
If a dollar could write a diary . . .



"**D**EAR DIARY," the dollar would write, "here I am in a great big bright factory, my ears almost deafened by the roar of machinery which turns out shining new appliances that thousands of Canadian housewives were waiting for all through the war.

"I know I'm just one of millions of dollars which the Life Insurance companies are investing now in all sorts of civilian post-war developments . . . public utilities, power resources, railways, hotels, office buildings, and a whole list of projects which are pressingly needed to get us all back to a normal peacetime footing.

"I came from a country bank, as part of somebody's Life Insurance premium. It's wonderful to feel that I'm doing something socially useful for the future welfare of my country"



This portion of every dollar of Life Insurance funds is invested in public utilities, industries, etc., and is hard at work in every

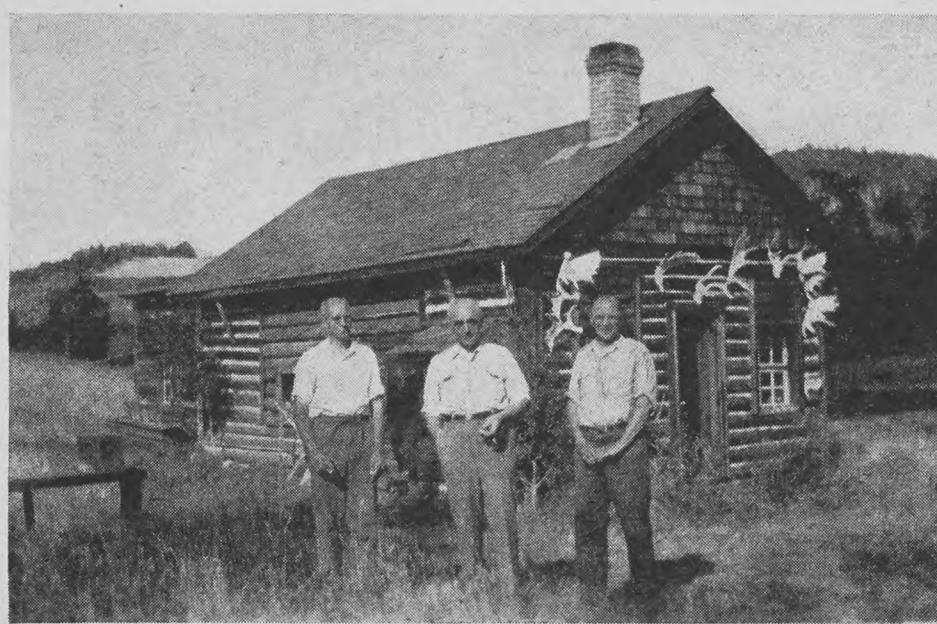
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Left to right: E. R. Buckell, Officer-in-Charge Field Crops Insect Investigations, Dominion Entomological Laboratory, B.C., a Country Guide Editor, and Professor George Spencer, Department of Zoology, University of B.C., standing outside the field laboratory at Lac du Bois.



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du Bois where we visited. There are, in fact, 24 parasites of the same family, but nine of them have different habits and lay eggs in junk, carrion, and in places other than in living insects. They sometimes lay their eggs on beetles and caterpillars; and there are certain kinds of blister beetles, we were told, that eat grasshopper eggs. Professor Spencer told me that about four years ago a new kind of grasshopper came up into Canada from the south, and last year the numbers of this new grasshopper were slightly reduced, owing probably to the fact that the parasitic flies had begun to find them.

At the station, we saw glass jars full of grasshoppers that had been captured, because, from the appearance of them, the entomologists could tell that they had been attacked by parasites and would ultimately die. Capturing the sick grasshoppers was one means of determining which parasites were the most valuable in keeping them down, since the grubs inside the grasshopper body could be reared to adult form, and if desired, used for breeding and releasing increased numbers of parasites.

Professor Spencer told me of a parasitic fly from South America, known as a tanglewing. This is not a flesh fly and has been found north in British Columbia as far as Chilcotin. This fly sits in a crack of a fence post or telephone pole and, altogether, may lay from three to four thousand eggs, at the rate of about six per minute. It lays about 500 in one batch, and Professor Spencer had seen as many as 30 of these flies on one pole. When the eggs hatch, the larvae seem to sit up on their tail ends, and when a breeze or wind of a certain strength comes along, they either jump into the air or are lifted by the wind, which carries them away. These little maggots are only about 1-26th of an inch in size, and the egg from which they emerge is about 1-50th of an inch. These maggots reach the grasshopper and enter its body in some way that nobody has yet found out.

The flesh flies, I understood, all deposit maggots on the grasshoppers as they fly. By some provision of nature, the maggot is made to stick to the body of the grasshopper in full flight. It appears that young hoppers are chosen because of some tender spot that can be found under the wing; and, remarkable as it may see, these young maggots may burrow into the body in ten seconds. When they are full grown and full fed, they emerge and pupate—that is, enter the stage in the life history of the insects which occurs between the maggots and the adult stage. Professor Spencer told me that he had raised one complete brood in one month's time.

Entomologists, like all other folks, have their moments of excitement. This generally occurs when some new or extremely rare specimen is discovered. The very day we visited the range station, Professor Spencer had found a kind of fly which, until July, 1945, had only been recorded once in North America, and that was many years ago in New Mexico. On two occasions earlier in the month Mr. Buckell had found specimens of this rare fly and the third

turned up for Professor Spencer to collect, the morning we arrived.—H.S.F.

A Family Farm for the Family

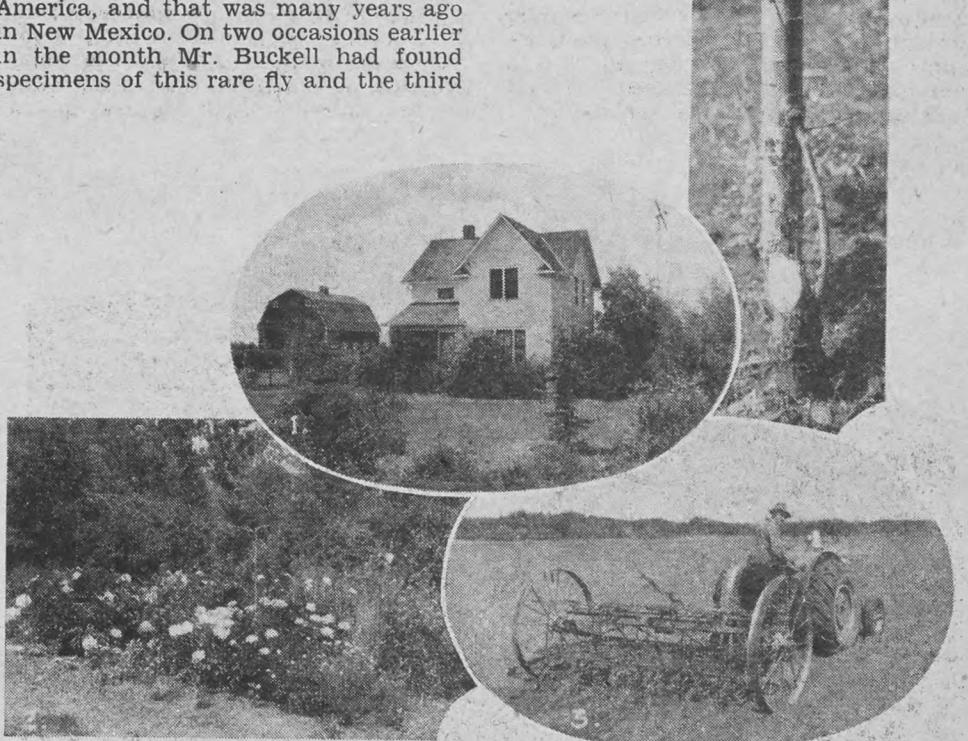
FEARS have been expressed by many people as to the future of the family farm. Most of these fears are centered about the probable effects of mechanization which tends to increase the size of farms and does make possible the cultivation of many more acres by a single worker. Socially, as well as economically, rural life in Canada would be profoundly altered by any marked transfer of emphasis from farming as a way of living, to farming as a business. Today it is both, and the consolation of those who fear most for the farm family unit, rests in the hope that in the future as in the past, changes will proceed slowly from precedent to precedent.

An unusually appealing family farm is operated at Ohaton, Alberta, by J. R. Blades. Mr. Blades is located ten miles south and two miles west of Ohaton, which is the first station east of Camrose. He has occupied his present farm of 780 acres since 1927, though he came out from England in 1914, and first located northeast of Ohaton.

As it stands today, the farm shows 325 acres under cultivation, and at the time of my visit, Mr. Blades was without help. A herd of 40 head of Shorthorn cattle, mostly grades, is carried, although it was his intention to increase the number of purebreds, since for a considerable number of years back, a purebred sire has been in use. The farm carried no pigs, and I believe no sheep.

Mr. Blades was one of the men who delayed for a long time in the purchase of a tractor. He still believes this was a wise move, since the modern tractor is so much more efficient than the earlier models. Nevertheless, he finds that he can do more work alone with the tractor, and do it more cheaply, than two men can do with ten horses. During the war years, this meant a very great deal.

Pictures used in connection with this article, would indicate that Mr. and Mrs. Blades not only regard farming as a way of living, but as a way of living comfortably. The contrast between the house as it looked in 1927, and again in 1945, shows something of what can be done when one is interested in improving farm home surroundings. A 32-volt windcharger provided water, which included running water inside the house.



1. House and Barn of J. R. Blades, Ohaton, Alta., with (above) house as it looked in 1927.
2. Part of the flower garden. 3. One man and a tractor replaces two men and ten horses.
4. A successful bridge-graft in the orchard after damage by mice.—Guide photo.



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There, too, I noticed a pleasant, handy appearing kitchen, equipped with that most useful of all kitchen equipment, a sink. The son of the family was in the Navy but is perhaps home by now. Jane and her pony were both at home, however, and so were about 30 pairs of martins inhabiting the colony birdhouse perched high on a pole near the house. Mr. Blades takes at least some part of his holiday period out in the woods with a gun, which explains why we were able to have elk meat for dinner.

One of the reasons why, for the past two or three years, I had been intending to visit this farm, was that I knew from correspondence, of Mr. Blades' interest in horticulture. Incidentally, it was a source of gratification to see, when we got into the orchard, several trees successfully kept alive after very severe damage from mice, by bridge grafting, after the method illustrated in *The Country Guide* a year or two ago. The Provincial Horticultural Station at Brooks, Alberta, has recognized Mr. Blades' interest in fruit growing, by establishing a small demonstration orchard on his farm. Some of the trees had died out, as was to be expected, since one of the reasons for establishing these orchards is to test the hardiness of varieties. In the farm orchard itself, we saw quite a variety of different fruits. The Chief raspberry was being grown without cover or protection of any kind, and was producing fine crops.

Mr. Blades told me that he had tried his hand at grafting, and I saw some Minnesota 447 and Oxbo drafted on Siberian crab, as well as Hibernal grafted on Piotet two years before, and Yellow Transparent on Siberian crab. In 1944, incidentally, a Hibernal tree carried 44 fruits, the largest of which measured 11 1/4 inches in circumference. There were none last year. The Macdonald apple, which carries a poor

crotch, and is therefore undesirable, had a few large, fine-colored fruits in 1944, but was also bare of fruit last year. Piotet, an apple-crab hybrid, which yields a fair crop nearly every year, is considered to be fairly hardy, although it winterkilled slightly. The Transcendent crab is regarded as one of the best for the district, and is fairly hardy. A Wealthy seedling in the orchard bore a few fruits in 1944; and one of the crab apples, Osman, as nearly everywhere else, rates high for hardiness and is a good cropper.

Mr. Blades has some Patten No. 5 pears. The tree was six years old and had fruited for three years, but the tree itself was not very attractive. He had two trees of the Pembina plum, which had yielded a few fruits, but was not especially recommended. The Mandarin plum seemed hardy and had born some fruit, while the Jewel, a native plum, though it had a light crop last year, bears early and has been a wonderful cropper.

Among the sandcherry-plum hybrids, the Opata never fails, and Mr. Blades has a seedling of his own of this variety which is very sweet, and of which he has started a few additional plants. Drilea, the Nanking-type cherry introduced from Morden, kills back some at Ohaton, while the Italian prune plum bore a few large purplish red fruits in 1944, and blossomed in 1945, but set no fruit. Two years ago, two Manchurian apricot fruits matured. Mr. Blades planted the pits to see what would happen. He also tried grafting the Manchurian apricot on the McRobert plum, but I have no record of his success. Finally, I might mention that he tried growing English walnuts, and found that while they made rapid growth and did not kill for the first year, for the last two years they killed to the ground, in spite of wrapping them in burlap.—H.S.F.

THE VOYAGE OF THE GOLDEN HIND

Continued from page 8

compass. "In a manner of speaking," he replied, his golden-lighted eyes fixed upon her face, "in a manner of speaking—men!"

EVEN then, when the old hero had taken her heart forever, she had no words for him. She made a step forward and tried to lift her arms. Her lips moved in a poor whisper. He made the step and lifted his arms so that she could move into them; and thus they embraced, the saved and the savior. She pressed her mouth into the bristle of his hollowed cheek. It was this reality of meeting, their coming together, that loosed her words. She cried out, "Ambrose! They said—they said I'd drowned you on that hulk!"

He opened his lips to answer. His mouth seemed ready to laugh. No laughter came. Instead he uttered the *Hind's* old rally. "Hard-a-lee, Cap'n Nora! Don't cry, Cap'n. Get it on her!"

He groaned and his head fell sideways sharply. "North-by-east. One hundred miles." His great legs shook under him and he slipped from her arms. "The *Western Star*!"

He sprawled on the deck. "Couldn't stay on her. She's afloat in shoal water. Mark-buoy! Rigged it myself." He keeled over.

She wailed above him. "What! Now?" Hardegon, kneeling by the old doryman, looked up and laughed at her fear of death. "Sound asleep, my girl! Trust Ambrose Cameron. He knows what to do!"

The dorymen took up Ambrose and carried him and his companions to the forecastle.

Nora grasped Hardegon by the arm. "You heard that course?"

"Aye!"

"Ten thousand dollars' worth of fishiced down and a fifteen-thousand-dollar keel beyond! We're near the saving of her!" She struck her hand against the *Hind's* rail.

"The keel's a loose fish," said Harde-

gon. "Belongs to the first man who sets foot on her deck. And, by the God that made me, I'll be that one!"

He yelled at the watch and made them jump to their stations. He roared out the rallying cry and the cry went booming up and down, into the forecastle, aloft, and down again into the cabin. "All hands! All hands! Tumble up! Oh, lively now!"

They swung the mainboom out of its crotch. He shouted, "The *Doublon*! Lay alongside that dog before daybreak and you're in the money!"

The gang roared and hauled.

Dan laughed his boastful laugh and took hold of the mainsheet to do the work of a laggard. "Fifteen thousand dollars' worth of prime lead lying on Scatari Shoal. Shares for all! The old sixty-forty lay, chums! Heave!"

"Heave! Hey! Oh, gorry! Pile it on her!"

"I'll punish her this night!"

The huge mainsail sucked up the breeze. The *Hind* trembled and splashed a little.

"Ease her! Ease her, chum!"

The foresail cried out in a thunderous voice. The *Hind* ceased her splashing and leaped. Now they spread all she had: topsails, staysail, jib and jumbo. And they trimmed her well until she lay over and drank the Atlantic up, running as she had run in her old days of racing.

The schooner sank the moon and



Porky: "WHOOPEE!—Pardon folks, but spring's in the air."

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tossed bow spray against the stars. All her standing gear sang out shrilly or sang out hoarsely. A booming sound passed up from her hold and marked swift time for her headlong passage. Captain Hardegon punished her all right, but she was the one who could take it, high seas or low; and when she plunged into the long swell left by the gale, she lifted her pace until the men roared again in pleasure at her famous qualities.

Raising his voice above the clamor of her sailing, old Clem asked Hardegon, "What's she got in the way of knots—that *Doublloon*?"

Eleven or twelve. With eighty thousand pounds in her pens—I don't know. She'll do well enough."

"We're doing that now."

"And better if the wind holds."

This question as to the *Doublloon*'s abilities left them in doubt. There was also the question of the head start she had on the *Hind*. Were they evenly matched, that half hour of the *Doublloon*'s fast going would settle the race before it began.

Hardegon and Clem agreed that it wasn't a question of a full hundred miles. Ambrose had said that was the distance, but it was their opinion that the *Western Star* lay considerably nearer. The best of men, fighting for his life in a dory, would tend to overestimate the distance he had covered, especially if the voyage had been marred by squalls and icy weather, which was certainly the case. Just the same, there was nothing to do at present except drive the *Hind* along. This they did. Hardegon set a double watch in the bow and sent men to stay aloft as long as they could stand it.

He wished to learn more from old Ambrose. Nora told him the story. Half an hour later, she came aft and repeated to him what Ambrose had said. It was what he expected.

"She's full of water, Dan. Barely afloat. But Ambrose thinks she'll stay up. It wasn't her hull. The sou'wester simply smashed in her companionway and ripped off the main hatch. The seas poured into her. They stayed with her until she was awash. All lashed to her wheel. Then she ran into shoal water and they had to leave her. No food. No water. Lucky, he says, to get oars and a bit of sail to handle the dory. The gale blew out and they found a wind to take them back his way. He figured that his best chance of getting picked up was to steer for the place he left us."

"Cape Breton Land?"

"That wasn't the wind's way, Dan. Besides, I've a feeling that he meant to find us and lead us to the *Star*, no matter what the cost."

"Did he sight us when the *Star* was running before the gale?"

"Yes. And he said to me just now, 'It was plain to us that you'd come along after the *Star*, if you could, and that's why we came and kept looking for you with hope.' And, Dan, they saw our torches night before last—"

"Night before last!"

"Aye, and steered for them, but they were so weak from hunger that they couldn't fight it out. Squalls—one after the other—drove them back again. But it was our torches that kept them going. They knew what they were for!"

"'Twas a smart thing you did there, my girl!"

She told him that, at the very end, Ambrose had sighted the *Hind*'s torches again and, at the same time, they discovered the *Doublloon* coming up. Ambrose knew the ugly part that Parran and the *Doublloon* had been playing at the start of the voyage. When he saw the *Doublloon* get under way so suddenly, he guessed that Parran had figured out where the *Western Star* had been abandoned and that the precious keel was his if he could get a man aboard the hulk before the *Hind* did.

She asked, "Isn't the keel ours? Is it a loose fish, as you call it?"

He shook his head. "I'm no sea lawyer, Nora. But, at the least, it's a salvage job for him, if he gets there first. But you know he won't bother with a long tow home. What's fifteen thousand dollars to him? To us, it's life. To him, just a few bags of fish. He'll ram the *Star* just to keep her out of our hands and keep you broke."

Thus, in their shrewd talk of the race's finish, their minds came together on one thing; that Parran had no way of knowing how far the booty lay in the northeast. He was as skilled as any man in adding two to two. In this case, he hadn't the two's to add.

"Unless," said Nora, "his friend in our cabin had some way of giving him the news—which isn't likely."

"Impossible!"

Yet this turn of thought made them both realize again how profound their fear of Roades' cunning had become; and, at the same time, how much wisdom they had gathered up. They were wise enough not to slight the enemy's strength. It certainly was unreasonable for either of them to fancy that a man, asleep in the cabin of a flying schooner, could manage a communication with a vessel far ahead in the black of night. Just the same, Hardegon called one of the bow watch and said, "Go take a look at that guy below chum. See if he's in his bunk."

This was a mistake by Hardegon. If he hadn't become skipper of the vessel, he might have gone below himself. In a way, his order was like sending a boy on a man's errand. However, Hardegon had been giving top orders for the first time in many months and, since he was a first-class sailing master who rejoiced in the crowded sail and the stout strains on the *Hind*, he had the best part of his thought intent on the vessel's behavior. Besides, he didn't know her too well.

The actual error lay in the doryman's execution of Hardegon's order. There was no doubt that he understood its grave meaning. It isn't every crew that has to watch a man as they would a maniac. Nevertheless, an ancient way of doing things served them far from well now.

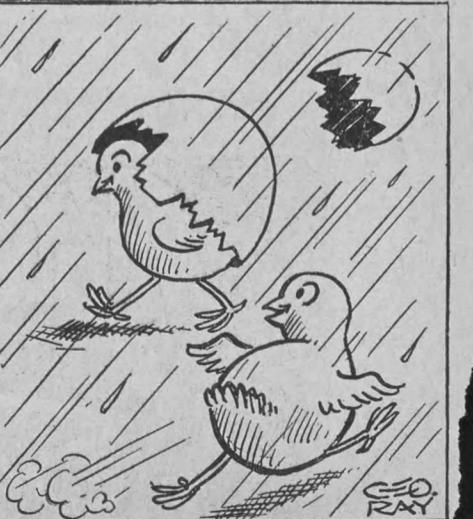
The old way was a time saver. It saved seconds when seconds meant a bagged-up sail or stove-in bow. This saving was often accomplished by means of symbols and such devices. The glass was one. A glance at it might keep a man off an icy deck. Sounds were also symbols. A constant hollow booming when the empty *Hind* was going off the wind pierced the men's slumber and told them that she was doing all right. So, too, various sounds passed over her deck with her down draft. All had meanings, one way or the other.

A man's boots, for another instance, had become a symbol, one that lived in the subconsciousness of the dorymen. It was a risk of death to set an unshod foot on the wintry deck. They were all acquainted with frostbite and knew Buerger's diseases, long before Buerger did. Taking away a doryman's cowhide boots, which protected him halfway to the knee, was like taking a man's horse on the old frontier. Boots were always at the edge of a man's bunk, ready to be pulled on even before his eyes had opened for the "All hands!" call.

The watch, then, pushed back the companionway slide and thrust his head down into the dimness. He closed the slide and reported to Hardegon, "I saw him sound asleep. Drunk again, I guess."

Actually he hadn't seen Roades at all. He had merely looked at his boots. These, as usual, were placed handy.

The report satisfied Nora and Hardegon. It even made them hungry, be-



Oh boy! Me for an umbrella too!

"Who'd a thought it? Our own Mother, too!"

JACK: Of all people. Now what shall we do?

JILL: Tell her, of course. She'd want to know.

MOTHER: See here, my little sleuths. You two just stood there and stared while I brushed my teeth with Ipana. So?

JACK: Well . . . But Moms—you brushed your teeth without massaging your gums!

MOTHER: Quite right. Sherlock. And why . . . ?

JILL: Oh, M-o-t-h-e-r! You're supposed to exercise your gums—just like teacher says. To help keep them from getting flabby and tender.

JACK: Sure. Gum massage is part of our homework. Because we eat so many soft foods that cheat on chewing. And gums need pepping up to help them—and your teeth—to stay healthy.

MOTHER: I'm beginning to see the light. That "pink" on my tooth brush, for instance—

JILL: And you know who to see about "pink tooth brush" don't you, Mother? Right—*your dentist!*



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cause there was an element of relief in it. They went down into the galley for a mug-up. There was a good deal of sleeping going on in the forecastle. Hardegon passed up to the peak, looking into the bunks on either hand. He found Ambrose and his men doubled up. They were breathing in new life and strength at a fine rate.

Nora took down a pair of mugs from the rack and poured tea from the great kettle. Dan made up an astonishing sandwich from the pantry, cut it in two, and took out a platter of cake. They ate in silence and listened shrewdly to the cracking, roaring noise of the *Hind*'s flight.

Hardegon said, "I'm going aloft to trouble the watch. You turn in. I'll call you if there's a break."

"It's too cold for a watch aloft," said Nora.

"Not yet it isn't. But that's what I'm going to settle. They'll come down if I can't stand it."

She went aft. The deck was dark, because the *Hind*'s lights had been taken down to hide her from the *Doublon*. There was only the glow out of her cabin skylight to guide her as she went slowly along.

HARDEGON climbed into the main weather rigging and ascended carefully, stopping now and then to scan the sails and to search the black sea for the gleam of a mark-buoy. He had in mind the probability that the clockwise tide might seize the *Western Star* and carry her to meet the *Hind*. In all the vast expanse which now lay open to his eye, no light showed. A few stars embroidered the west. In the east, where daybreak soon would shine, an enormous cloud rolled. The *Hind*'s wake satisfied him. There was no splashing under her bow.

He climbed to the crosstree and struck the watch's boot. The watch bent down from the sky.

Hardegon shouted, "Tisn't too cold, chum?"

"Not yet it ain't!"

"Come down when it is."

"I will that, Dan."

"I was thinking that the tide might have swung the *Star* westward. Might be nearer than the old boy figured."

"Slow work, Dan!"

"Aye! True for you!"

The doryman straightened in his perch.

Hardegon lay there in the shrouds, rejoicing, as always, in the beauty and strength of the slim hull below him. Even in that rush of darkness he could see flashes of color from her runways and her inner bulwarks. The glow in the skylight made it seem like a panel of jewels. The *Hind* swayed at her work and gave him an airy plunge up and down. He locked a leg into her shrouds and peered ahead. He saw the crest of a roller crease the black and come leaping toward the schooner. He heard its loudening bray. This sea was a gearsmasher. Its hurtling attack, which would bring it on the weather bow, gave him a quick concern for the vessel. It wiped the grin off his face. At precisely the right moment, the helmsman gave the *Hind* a spoke or two and, in swift obedience, she split the sea in two, crashed through it with nothing more than a dainty shake which came up lightly to his clinging hands.

"Well done, the *Hind*!" he said aloud.

The boarding sea whitened her deck. She cleared herself and flew on. A hand struck at his boot.

He twisted down. It was Nora, shouting to him. Her face gave off such an icy gleam, beneath the brim of her sou'wester, that he knew she had paled with terror. He couldn't come down to her side. He shouted and thrust his boot out. She began to descend and he to follow. He slid from the swifters and stood by her side.

She clung to him and cried out, "Roades! He's gone!"

"Over?"

"I don't know! That doryman—"

"What!"

"He never looked into the bunk. Saw the boots there. But he's gone!"

"In the galley?"

"No!"

Hardegon drew her close and said, "He's killed himself. Over the side. Clem said he would one day. Saw the noose, he did!"

She shook her head. "Not that one! Not while he has a chance left."

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Hardegon cried, "The pen!" At this, she nodded and cried out a word that the wind snatched. It had been her thought, too. Yet she hadn't dared to face that possibility alone.

He ran to the main hatch. It hadn't been touched since the men closed it over the halibut. Yet this had no meaning. On the *Hind* there was another way of getting into the pens. This was from the cabin. There was a bulkhead leading from the cabin to the small after-hold and a second bulkhead which opened into a gangway between the pens. In most other schooners, this small after-hold had been made into an engine-room. The *Hind* kept it as a sort of lazaret. There was a sail-locker there, too, and some accommodations left over from racing days. However, this inner bulkhead hadn't been opened for some time. Its chief use had been to get men into the pens when ice was making on her deck. In a way, that bulkhead served the same purpose as manholes on larger sailing vessels.

Hardegon lifted the cover and bade her hold it. He thrust his head over the coamings and looked down.

"All dark so far."

She tried to thrust the old revolver into his hand.

As before, on the expedition to the *Doublon*, he rejected it. "I'd shoot myself. I'm going to break his skull open with this!" He flung up his clenched hand.

"I'll keep it. I'll go, too."

"You must come. You must see and remember. Keep out of the way, that's all. Give me a whack at that buck. But kill him! Kill him, if you must. A slug in the belly!"

They went down the steel rungs. Here, between Number One pen and Number Two, they could see the length of the hold. What they saw was enough to stop them. The inner bulkhead wasn't particularly tight. A film of yellow light played under it, waxed and waned amidst a sort of smoky vapor that came off the ice. A clearer ray of light, this time from an auger hole, shot down from the upper panel of the bulkhead.

It was plain that somebody was at work on the after side of that bulkhead.

"You hear anything, Nora?"

"No!"

"He's not in here yet."

"No, Dan. Nearer. Get nearer."

They moved slowly out of the pen and went into Number Four. It was partly filled with halibut, which had been well iced down. Hardegon pushed her up on to the layer of fish. She crouched there. He crouched by her side, his head in the passageway so that he could see the bulkhead. Although they were only eight feet nearer to the light, they could now hear quite clearly the blows of a maul. At times the boom of the schooner, when she steered into a roller, drowned this hammering. Once, when the helmsman was caught by a freakish sea, the *Hind* fell off and the light went out.

"Must have dropped off a hook!" whispered Hardegon.

About ten minutes passed before the bulkhead swung open. A considerable thickness of crushed ice had fallen against it. This ice delayed the full opening several more minutes. At last, the ice was pushing back and the whole passageway filled suddenly with the light of a lantern.



"If youse t' wabbit what bings m' Easter eggs - could you make em all choclut dis year?"

Hardegon drew back. He struck Nora lightly on the shoulder to warn her.

THE wavering light grew brighter as its bearer approached. There was no hesitation on his part. The circle of light came right up to the pen in which they were hidden; then it turned into Number Three pen.

Roades rammed the lantern handle into a crack between two boards of the pen. He knelt by the body of Corkery and began to untie the trawl lines which had been lashed around the canvas. At the first untying, his back was turned to Hardegon, who thus could see only the rusty fingers flashing back and forth. When the lines fell away from the lower part of the body, he changed his position. He straddled the body. This gave Hardegon and Nora a full look at his face: wracked, distorted, yet cold in its intensity of purpose.

Corkery had been laid out on his back. The men had not been able to move his hands. They were held upward in that same gesture of supplication. Nor had that unspeakable face changed. Nothing had been taken from the sorrowful indictment that it had sent up to its murderer before. The eyes gazed upward in unaltered, pitiful force. Few men could have withstood this spectre, which had persisted through death and icy seas and the *Doublon*'s crushing net to make its accusation again, here in the mellow light of its old sea home.

Roades withstood the gaze. He cursed. The schooner lurched clumsily and his knees shifted on the layer of ice. He waited until she had settled down. He struck at the mouth savagely and said one word. "Gabber!"

A certain feverishness then seized him as he took up his search for the one thing that would save him and Parran from the noose of their dreams. He ripped the canvas away with violent movements of his arms. He roughly turned the body over and ripped the slicker and the shirts away. Thus he laid clear the wound he had made in Corkery's back, the wound where his own knife had found the doryman's heart.

"It's gone!"

The blue swath of the wound and the torn, frozen flesh meant nothing to him. He had come there for his Miquelon knife. He meant to destroy it and the body together.

He cursed again. He then passed his hands under the corpse and began to lift it.

Hardegon drew the Miquelon knife out of his boot and strode into the pen. He shouted "Roades!"

Roades sank to his knees and let his burden fall. When his insane face turned upward, Hardegon said, "You looking for this?"

He held the knife in the palm of his right hand.

This time, the grotesque eye in the gargoyle's head on its handle stared at Roades, and the stare, revealed in the lantern's glow, somehow seemed arch, mysterious, even gay.

Hardegon stepped backward to gain time for his words. He won it.

Roades came up in a dreadful, slow straightening of his legs. He lifted his hands, in that same slow measure, to his own throat, where the fingers began to fumble. His eyes, which at first had sent a golden gaze over those fingers, changed into a redder hue, as if his blood had burst its vessels.

Hardegon said, "Listen! Nora and I saw you murder John Corkery at Parran's command. Clem and Lisbon know who made that wound, and what knife made it. I found the body in the *Doublon*'s bag and wrenched this knife out of it. And hid it here!" He let his hand fall toward his boot. "Nora Doonan, Clem and the Lisbon know all this. Atkins told me that you three killed the Yarmouth woman." He spat. "You and Parran will hang!"

Roades screamed and leaped over the body.

Hardegon flung the knife down and met the charge with a blow on the jaw that stood him up, big as he was. Hardegon drove both his fists against the other's ribs until Roades screamed again and flung out his arms to drag Hardegon down. Hardegon stepped strongly into the embrace, not fearing the other's strength; and there, just before the



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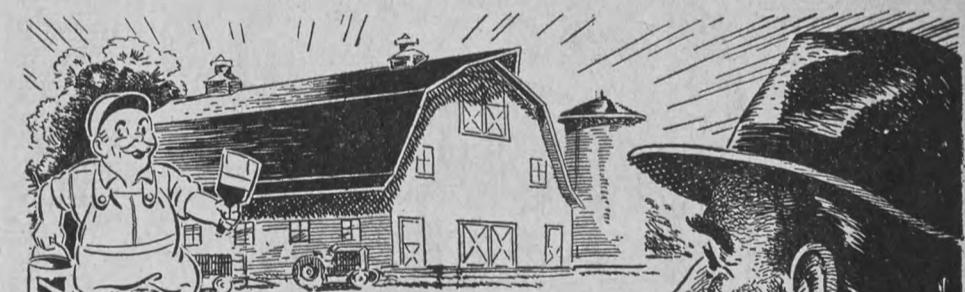
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arms and hands grasped him, he struck against the jaw with his left hand. The jawbone broke. Blood spurted from Roades' nostrils and flowed from his bitten lips.

Yet Roades had vast sums of courage and strength, and a terrible fate to goad him. And he was a knife fighter, full of Canuck trickery. He yelled fearfully, in their fashion, and struck Hardegon in the belly with his knee. The belly was hard, but not hard enough to take that assault without a flinching of the whole body. Hardegon flinched and, in that expected change, Roades hurled his whole weight against him, heaved him against the side of the pen with terrible force.

Hardegon lifted his fists and his right knee. He was in error there. He knew that Roades had no taste for fighting with fists. Hands were broken that way and livelihoods lost. Roades required steel. He lunched across the pen and, in the very act of whirling to attack again, he picked up the knife, so foolishly disdained by Hardegon.

Bawling a horrible and foul epithet, Roades sprang, knife held in the classic style of the outward sweep. He caught Hardegon standing on one foot. The foot, being booted, gave way on the cracking ice. This brought Hardegon out of his poise and left him only one way of defense. He closed one hand on Roades' knife hand and closed the other on the fingers that now pressed against his windpipe. He could not bring his strength to bear against Roades' strength because his thighs and legs helped him not at all. He could beat back the fingers at his throat only by allowing the knife hand to come nearer.

Thus they were locked and, amidst the booming of the *Hind*'s passage, each man strained to break the lock.

The knife hand slowly won the bloody seesaw. Nothing could halt its downward thrust, its approach to Hardegon's throat, hairbreadth by hairbreadth. The cursing ceased. Only blood and foam came from their bruised lips.

Neither did Nora speak. She knew that the aiming of a revolver was no easy thing to do, especially when two big men were thus embraced. She came within four feet of Roades before she pressed the trigger.

COMPRESSED in that tiny space, the explosion was awful. She was never to know whether the bullet had found its mark in his straining back. Roades screamed again, making an extraordinary noise for the mouth of a man. The knife fell from his hand and he tottered backward. Stranger still, he gazed in horror directly at Hardegon, even gazed at his hands, as if he thought the revolver had been held in one of them all this time.

Nora pressed back the hammer of the revolver and took a step forward. She raised the revolver and, at the same time, bent down and seized the knife. She flung it behind her, flung it far into the other pen.

She shouted a warning to Roades. "Now are you for it?"

This time he looked at her. He howled like a beast. He fell back another step. He raised his hands to his eyes in a blinding gesture to screen them from an image of himself that even he could not bear. He lifted his bare foot and plunged forward. He staggered into the open passageway. There he howled again. The weird accent mingled with the hollow accent of the *Hind*. He fell and rose again, howling his grief and terror. He stumbled against the steel ladder of the hatchway and climbed to the deck, where the first green light of dawn was striking the spray.

Hardegon followed. Nora came after. They reached the deck in time to see Roades his hands still over his face, run howling to the rail. He flung himself over it. They saw his blond, shaggy head whirl brightly in the icy tide. A wreath of foam, laced with blue and green, struck his head. He vanished.

There had been light enough for the four men on deck to see Roades plunge to his death. The two on watch in the

bow had heard his howling. The helmsman hadn't heard because of the wind. He had seen the dive.

The doryman on watch amidships might have stopped Roades had he been a stride nearer. He was one of the elders, however, and had neither the strength nor the agility for such a task. There was also some question whether he would have saved Roades, had he been able. In his later testimony, he said that the expression on the captain's face was really terrifying. He used the phrase, "I was too froze to lift a hand." At that later time, too, he made an astonishing statement. He declared that Captain Roades was blind when he killed himself, that he actually could not see. The doryman was never able to explain his conviction. He merely repeated, quite stubbornly, that he knew a blind man when he saw one. The bullet hadn't blinded him. The court of enquiry found it in the *Hind*'s hull. It was supposed that the bullet had wounded him.

Hardegon himself, as he stood at the surging rail, had no strong desire to prevent the suicide.

It would have been inhuman, even if there had been a chance of rescue. There was no chance. The water was cold enough to paralyze a man. And Roades, of course, couldn't swim at all. On that score, his story had always been the old Gloucester one: "Why learn? It just takes that much longer to drown!"

Yet, on the chance that Roades might have struck a bit of wreckage, Hardegon brought the *Hind* around briskly and sailed two miles. He understood that the court of enquiry would be gratified to hear of this.

When he gave up the search and swung back on the old course, he looked for Nora. The helmsman pointed to the cabin. He found her there, stretched in her bunk, her eyes closed, tears on her cheeks. He didn't speak to her, having in mind that, not long since, the lost man had been dear to her.

In Roades' bunk, he found another drained bottle and, near it, the cocked revolver, where she had flung it. He let the hammer of the gun down and put it back in its box. The captain's boots were on the locker, where the doryman had seen them. Hardegon put them out of sight and went to the deck.

The *Hind* had sailed on that course since the setting of the moon. It was now full sunrise and she still ploughed along handsomely, although the wind had hauled into the west a bit more than she liked. It was possible to come to a judgment on the good or bad of all this sailing. As the daylight spread, they searched the blue water ahead for a sign of the *Doublon*. A vessel was sighted several miles to the northeast. She was made out to be either a warship or a Coast Guard cutter. Her course lay toward the *Hind*.

Hardegon said, "We'll speak her." They let the *Hind* fall on to the other tack and drove along. One of the top-mastmen sent down the surprising word, "Dragger astern!"

A moment later, the watch aloft made out this vessel, which had been working through scattered pan ice and some vapor. He sang out. "The *Doublon* coming up!" and, "Coming up fast!"

The stern chase had ended in the night, unbeknownst to the *Hind*. Of course, Parran didn't know exactly where to search for the *Western Star*. He had to give the *Hind* a chance to lead him to the position. He had slowed down his engine with the intention of making a dash for it as soon as the *Hind* had found the hulk. The rate at which he closed the gap between them showed that, under these conditions, the *Doublon* was the faster. The wind was jumping around again. There was no telling what it would be doing when the hardest sailing would be called for.

It was Nora who spoke against the too simple plan of just barging ahead. She had been watching the strange vessel in the northeast. Old Clem said to her. "My guess is that she's one of the old Coast Guard cutters."

The Lisbon, who had been in the bow said that this was right.

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"Then," said Nora, "there's the law and I want it." She spoke to Hardegon. "You said you'd speak that vessel, Dan."

"We will."

"I don't want to be alone any more," she said.

"I have enough!" cried the Lisbon sharply. "The law is good. The law is there!" he flung his hand out toward the cutter.

Hardegon said, "Take the wheel. Take over."

The Lisbon put his hands on the spokes.

HARDEGON went below and presently returned with a brace of rolled signal flags under his arm. He unknotted them, tied them to the signal halyard and hoisted: "Stand by. We require assistance."

Somebody said, "What's that cutter doing up here, anyway? She's making knots."

Hardegon replied, "Going home, most likely. From Iceland, maybe. Or convoy work."

"Will she stand by?"

He grinned. "Don't make me laugh, chum! The whole Guard's *Hind* crazy, anyway. They'd come along, even if it wasn't their duty. Wait till they make out our topsails. There are no others on the Banks today."

Ambrose Cameron came a-rolling down the deck. He was gay. "A mere snack, my friends! Just a mug-up in passing, as it were." This was an allusion to his wonderful breakfast, which is now a historical fact, especially the five beefsteaks.

The Lisbon looked up into that scarred and ruddy face, held high again. "Little boy, you like to steer big ship, eh?" There was more than simple fun in the Lisbon's offer. He knew Ambrose had been a famous sailing master and that a long time had passed since he had had his hands on a wheel like the *Hind*'s.

Ambrose held up his hands in polite dismay. He still wore his yellow gloves. "What a gross suggestion, my dear man, to a gentleman out for his post-prandial stroll! With gloves and stick—my word! Where is my stick?"

He looked to leeward in wonderful surprise.

"Take off pretty gloves, little greenhorn," said the Lisbon, "and do some work. You been loafing too long. North-northeast. Steer an S, if you please, but not an O."

"Ah, I must steer!" Ambrose stood by the wheel. This made him even happier. He said, "Hem!" and gave her a half a spoke. "North-northeast." He read off the binnacle's story and began his scrutiny of her sails. He frowned delicately.

Hardegon cried, "Oh, Lord! Here's where we all go to school. What is it, Captain Cameron?"

"May I bother you?" asked Ambrose "Just a little—the very littlest bit on that foresheet. Ah, thank you!"

Hardegon nodded to the foresheet gang and they ran forward with laughing glances backward.

The bow watch sang out. A man in the foremast took up his words and passed them on. "Cutter changing course!" And in the next breath, "Doubloon! Watch her!"

Both the cutter and the *Doubloon* had taken courses that would carry them to eastward of the *Hind*. The *Doubloon* was doing her best. The cutter was taking her time. She was still so far away that nothing more than the general cut of her jib could be seen.

The answer to the "Now what?" which was uttered in different ways at the *Hind*'s wheel, came from aloft in the lookout's "Wu-roo-oo! Wu-roo-oo!"

Hardegon shouted, "He's got it!"

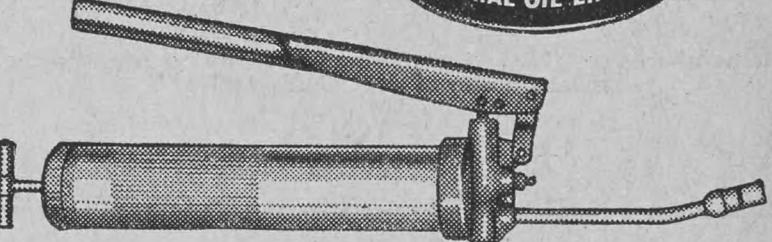
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look clear of the sails. He saw the lookout with his arm thrust out to the eastward. He then turned his head and shouted the expected words. "The Western Star! Western Star!" Then he yelled, "All hands! All hands!" and "Hard-a-lee! Oh, lively now! Jump it!"

"Hard-a-lee!" The signal sped through the schooner. The gangs ran to their stations.

Ambrose brought the *Hind* into the wind. From then on, not a word had to be said. The topmastmen had been lying at their stations. They shifted the topsails. The staysail went over after the main and fore. The *Hind* lingered only the right moment in the wind; then she fell swiftly on to the new tack and leaped away. They trimmed her as she flew. She had been handy. Vessel and men had shown all their qualities in the manoeuvre. Yet the three hundred horses in the *Doublon's* engine had been at work. She had the lead by half a mile.

Ambrose held the *Hind* to it firmly. Her lee rail went down until it vanished in a green swirl. He eased her and she lifted her pace smartly. The space between her and the *Doublon* began to shrink. The space between the *Hind* and the cutter closed up faster.

The lookout shouted again. He kept his arm unchanged.

In twenty minutes of furious sailing, Nora, who had climbed into the main rigging, made out the long deck of the *Western Star*. It was awash. A mark-buoy floated astern of her. Its light was out. The mainmast of the *Western Star* stood unharmed. Its stays had held. Nothing remained of her other spars, except a stump forward. There were some ribbons flying here and there. At times, a dark sea gushed out of her hatch.

But there was life left in that hulk. Her buoyancy had been built into her by the best Yankees that ever knocked a block away; and her precious keel still swung in the tide, a prize to be fought for now by the *Hind* alone. The presence of the Coast Guardsman in that lonely water gave Nora much comfort. Even if this present race was lost, and the *Hind* itself were lost to her, she knew that the end had come to Parran's cruelty and tricks.

Nora took her longing eyes off the *Western Star*. She could now see that the cutter was swinging out a lifeboat. The cutter was so close that she could see her officers crowding the leeward wing of her bridge. They were reading the *Hind's* signal flags.

She saw the door of the *Doublon's* pilothouse open. A man, whom she judged to be Parran, came out. He looked ahead, then turned and looked at the onrushing *Hind*. The *Hind* was overhauling the *Doublon*. Even while she watched, she could see the gain. She could even see Parran's face when he shouted an order to his men. Four of the draggermen climbed to the top of her pilothouse and began work on one of the two dories there.

She jumped down and ran to Hardegon's side. "You see that, Dan?"

"Aye!" He thrust her to one side and shouted, "Top dory! Lee side! Swing her out!"

THE *Hind* buried her bow into a great roller and coasted over it. She passed hurtling down the valley and flung herself up the next one. She was talking to herself now, talking loudly in an accent full of booms and shrill whistles and some laughter. She hit the spray so hard that she flung rainbows to her gaffs.

Hardegon said to the Lisbon, "Four men to that dory! Two to a thwart. You to steer."

"Aye, Captain!"

"Take your gobsticks. If you get aboard that vessel first, keep that guy off. If you lose, steer away and stand by."

"Gobsticks it is, Captain." He walked forward at a careful pace, striking this man and that on the shoulder as he went, and thus he drew his oarsmen after him.

Hardegon seized Nora by the arm. "Get up there and tell the Lisbon to take on buoys. Five of them. This is going to be a flying set and a tough one."

She hurried away.

The *Hind* burst through another roller and pitched headlong toward the *Western Star*.



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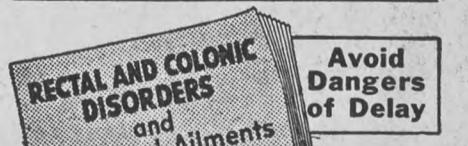


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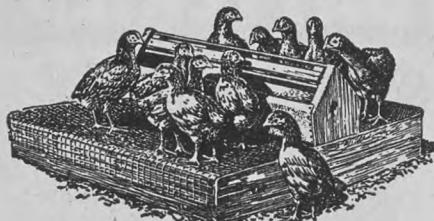
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The cutter's lifeboat had been lowered. Yet the Guardsmen kept their oars ready, did not row. An officer, standing at the rail directly above the boat, kept her standing by with his upraised hand. Apparently they had figured out the meaning of the race and had no wish to interfere. Just the same, there was the *Hind's* signal to be considered. A set of flags fluttered on the cutter's halyard.

Hardegon said, "They understand. Haul down on that halyard."

Now the distance between the *Hind* and the *Doublon* had shrunk to nothing.

"To windward!" Hardegon jerked his hand. Ambrose brought the helm up lightly. The schooner closed up on the *Doublon's* weather quarter and thrust her bowsprit beyond his main rigging. Inch by inch, she drew ahead.

Hardegon shouted, "It's a dory race now! And what a chance he's got!"

He lifted his right hand and held it aloft until he caught the Lisbon's eye. Yet he withheld the downward signal until he saw the *Doublon* suddenly veer off and fling her own dory down. Parran himself stood in the sternsheets, his face howling at his men. The dory struck so hard that, for a moment it vanished. Then it rose out of the trough and the draggermen, yelling ferociously, gave way.

"Dory away!" Hardegon brought his hand down sharply. Then men at the tackle let the dory drop. Others pushed her clear with boathooks.

No man could tell thereafter exactly what happened to the dory. The whole action was lightning fast. A sea spun out from under the *Hind's* plunging bow and the stern of the dory lagged in the lowering. The dory turned over, spilled her five men and whirled bottom up into the foam.

A howl of triumph blew over the dragger's deck. The cutter's siren began to blow.

Ambrose shouted, "Cutter boat away!" "Drive her! Drive her!" Hardegon jumped to the wheel to lend his weight. The *Hind* rushed onward, leaving the *Doublon* and her dory behind.

The watch forward and aloft began to yell like madmen. The men in the bow ran aft with hands upraised. "Hard over. Dan! Hard over!"

Nora ran to the rail. She saw the *Western Star* lying directly in the *Hind's* way. There was less than a foot of her hull showing. She laughed wildly and turned to Hardegon. She ran to him and cried, "Push her, Dan!"

"Stand by!" Hardegon looked over his shoulder at the *Doublon's* boat. It was racing alongside the *Hind's* wake. Farther astern, the cutter's boat was picking up the *Hind's* dorymen, who were riding their buoys.

"Haul down!" He had time enough to

get the mainsail off. And that was all. Ambrose could give her only a spoke to take some of the mighty drive out of her. In the next instant, the *Hind* crashed into the *Western Star* and slid on to that flowing deck.

The *Hind* reared, groaned and lay quiet. A sea struck her. She leaned a little to leeward and lay quiet again, all her music over.

The moment the vessel careened, Nora went over the rail at the fore rigging. She sprawled on the *Western Star's* deck, which had now gone under the water at that point. She ran to the mainmast and thrust her arm through a hoop that lay there in a tangle of rope yarn and tattered sail.

She flung up her arm and shouted, "The *Hind*! The *Hind's* loose fish!"

Hardegon said to Ambrose, "Rig the pump! Send a man into the peak. See how she took the rap."

Ambrose replied, "Tis only a touch for her, Captain. 'Twasn't as bad as pan ice. No!"

Hardegon called to the bow watch. They followed him to the *Western Star's* deck. He said, "No man puts a foot aboard this vessel. Unless it's the Guard!"

The men ranged themselves forward to meet Parran's dory. He stood up in it, making a pretty sight with his blubering and cursing.

A *Hind* man sang out, "Fit to be tied, ain't ye, Parran? Come aboard of this here hull and I'll beat the daylights out of ye!"

Parran spoke to his men. They backed water.

Nora left her place and joined the men forward. She hailed Parran. "Captain Parran!"

He said at once, "Where's Captain Roades?"

"For us to know," answered Nora, "and you to find out!"

Parran at once revealed that he understood Roades was dead. Nora's reply hadn't guided him to that knowledge. No word had been said by her dorymen. Yet there were expressions on all those faces that could be added up. Parran did the sum and slipped awkwardly back into his seat. Nora heard him say, "Boys, Jack Roades is dead! I thought he'd do it."

None of them answered. The bow oar lifted. At this Hardegon shouted, "Parran, you stand by!"

"Stand by?"

"Aye! There a word to be said to you. And not by me."

THE cutter's boat came up. A grey-haired warrant officer stood in the sternsheets. His men backed over the *Western Star's* submerged rail and he came splashing aboard. He said, "The *Hind's* captain?"

"There!" Nora pointed to Hardegon. Until that moment, the officer hadn't

A Canadian Writer

EFFIE M. BUTLER is a writer who is becoming well known to readers of The Country Guide, because of her poems, articles and fiction. She is author of the charming story "And So Came Spring" appearing in this issue and which is so appropriately illustrated by the Manitoba artist, Clarence Tillenius. Effie Butler has had stories accepted by Women's Magazine, England, and in March, 1943, won a prize with her story, "Not Yet So Old," in Icelandic Canadian.

We recall with some pride that we accepted the first poem she sent out for publication. She has since had many others accepted by publications both in Canada and the United States. She has written both

stories and articles for many juvenile publications. In 1939 The Country Guide published an article from Effie Butler "How I Overcome Loneliness," which

was written at the time when she and her husband were stationed at a government fish hatchery at a lonely spot on the Dauphin River. Later when George Butler was appointed Supervisor of Fisheries for Manitoba, they moved to Winnipeg and made their home there. Effie Butler was born on a farm near Grandview, Manitoba. Her family name before marriage was McVey and she is of Scotch descent. She taught school in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, before marrying and turning her thoughts to homemaking and writing.



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noticed that there was a girl aboard in doryman's togs. The voice informed him. It was not his part to show surprise. He touched his cap and said, "And you, miss?"

"The *Hind*'s owner, Nora Doonan." He faced Hardegon, recognized him, and held out his hand.

Hardegon said, "Glad to see you, Mr. Hanson."

The officer said, "What's the meaning of all this, Captain?"

"It's simple enough—"

"I hope so!" said the officer gravely.

"You're standing on the deck of the old *Western Star*—"

"What?" Hanson looked down in astonishment at the famous ruin.

"Yes! And to make a long story short—for the time being—you've got fifteen thousand dollars' worth of metal under your boots. Her keel! Metal that's much wanted at the Boston Navy Yard."

A seaman with a notebook and a pencil in his hands took his place close to the warrant officer and, just as if he was taking a letter down by a 'longshore bay window, began writing down answers and replies. "Very good, Forrestall," said the warrant officer. He waited until the notes caught up and then asked, "The *Western Star*? Who is her owner, Captain Hardegon?"

"The owner of the *Hind*."

"Miss Doonan again?"

"Yes."

"And the dragger, Captain Hardegon? Where does she come in?"

"Last!" yelled a *Hind* man.

When the laughter ceased, Hardegon told him how the *Western Star* had been bought by Nora, had been lost in the sou'wester and how she had been found. "The question of the *Star* is to be settled by us, Mr. Hanson. We want the fifteen thousand dollars. The *Star*'s papers are—"

"Here!" said Nora, striking her reefer pocket.

"What is the other question then, Captain Hardegon?" asked the warrant. "Not that we can put the *Star* aside so easily."

"The question is one of murder and robbery and piracy!"

"The captain of the *Hind*—Jack Roades—is dead. One of our hands, John Corkery, was murdered on the *Doublon* a while back. I saw it!"

Shouts of astonishment rang out on the flowing deck.

"Who killed the captain of the *Hind*?"

"He killed himself."

"Who killed—what was the name of your hand?"

"Corkery, John," repeated the seaman, his eyes on the notebook.

"Two men killed him, Mr. Hanson," replied Hardegon. "Captain Roades was one. Captain Parran"—he pointed to the *Doublon*'s boat—"was the other. I charge him—that man there—with murder!"

Nora said, "I saw the murder, too. I will make the same charge when the time comes."

"The time is now!" The warrant officer took a step toward the *Doublon*'s boat. "Captain Parran, you will go to the cutter."

Parran gave no answer. He stayed hunched in his place, his big head weakly held up. He tried to pump out a word, but nothing came out. A Guardsman left his place and stepped into Parran's dory. The draggers rowed away to meet the cutter.

The warrant officer, whose memory had been at work despite the job he had on his hands, spoke to Nora. "You are Captain Doonan's granddaughter, aren't you?"

"Yes, Mr. Hanson."

"And how is he? I sailed with him once long ago. On her. As his guest." He nodded toward the half-prostrate *Hind*.

"He is dead. Long since."

"I'm sorry to hear that, miss. He was a fine man and a great sailor." He then tapped his boot against the deck. "And this? How do you propose to handle her? She can't be left here, you know. If anything hit—a destroyer, for example—" He flung out his hands.

"She's tight," said Nora quickly. "She's not lost her buoyancy. She's fifteen thousand dollars for us all. I've already sold her to a Boston man. We'll deliver her!"

"How?"

"With that!" She pointed to the *Hind*'s

slanting deck. The old handpump, which had been rigged in case the *Hind* had started a plank, was coming down again and Ambrose was making ready to get it into a sling for the transfer.

Mr. Hanson shook his head. "I'm afraid not. It would take you days at"—he shrewdly sized up the pump—"two hundred strokes an hour." He walked over to the gushing hatch and returned. "You must be prepared for a disappointment, Miss Doonan." He looked to Hardegon, as if he preferred to give the bad news to a man. "Captain Hardegon, I'm afraid my captain will order a demolition charge for her. It's too bad. Especially with the metal needed. But she's dangerous. Very dangerous." He looked at his strap-watch and, half to himself said, "Yet, we've all day before us."

HARDEGON didn't answer. Instead, he caught Nora's eye and gave her a slow, inciting wink, by which he meant, "Make it lively, chum!" He then said to the warrant, "Long cruise you've had, Mr. Hanson."

"Iceland and beyond."

"She looks it!"

"We all look it, I guess." He sighed and added, "On the way home, at last." The sigh was a sign, natural to man home from the wars, than an interruption of this kind was something of a burden. He spoke again. "Of course, I knew the *Western Star*. I've seen her go in the old days. Fifteen thousand dollars in metal, did you say, Miss Doonan?"

"Fifteen thousand! And more, the way the market's going. But it isn't the fifteen thousand, Mr. Hanson. Not for itself, I mean. It's the money to take the old *Hind* out of hock—that's what we fought and sailed for. Parran's money! And I'll fight it out now!" She pulled out the *Western Star*'s papers. "She's no derelict, I tell you! Here's her papers and the transfer and the customs receipt out of Shelburne, where I bought her. Why, there's nothing but a little water in her!"

He burst into laughter, waved the papers aside and asked, "Who's the *Star*'s skipper?"

She pointed to old Ambrose. The great campaigner had been ready for inspection. Head flung back, he gravely returned the officer's salute, with wonderful disregard of the water beating at his boots.

Hardegon shifted an inch and winked again at Nora. This time the wink said, "Nice going, Nora!"

"Mr. Hanson, sir!" The hail came down in a beautiful roar from the cutter's rail. She had now worked up quite close and her engines were holding her against the tide. It was her captain speaking. He repeated the warrant's name and asked, "How long are you going to linger on that wreck? What's the matter with the *Hind*? Is her captain crazy?"

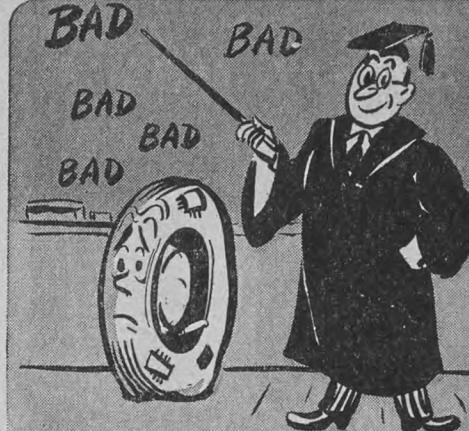
Mr. Hanson crossed the *Star*'s slanted deck and braced himself against her mainmast. He shouted, "The *Hind*'s owner is aboard here, sir, and she sends you her compliments and—"

"She? What the devil are you giving us, Hanson? She? She? What she?"

"I tell you, sir, it's a girl!"

Hardegon gave a nod to Nora, who advanced with considerable grace, in view of the splashy circumstances, and waved her hand.

"Not enough!" whispered Hardegon. Nora pulled off her cap and, by hook

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SEE RAY

or by crook, wrecked her crown of braids so that there was some pretty hair flying.

A roar went up from the cutter's rails and a few shouts came out of her ports. It was surprising, especially in such a hard-working service, that so many jobs were finished just at that moment.

"Do you mean to tell me, Mr. Hanson, that you have a real, live American girl there on that derelict?" Without waiting for a word back, the captain doffed his cap, shook his fist, and roared again. "Take her off this instant, sir? Hurry now!"

THE warrant officer spoke first under his breath. "You leave this to me and I'll get the whole kit and caboodle into Gloucester before Sunday!" He shouted to the captain, "She's the captain and owner of this vessel, sir—the old *Western Star*. Taking a fifteen-thousand-dollar keel home to be melted down for the Navy Yard. She refuses to abandon and she demands assistance.



She appeals to the tradition of the Service, sir, and asks you to pull the *Hind* off and leave her alone!"

"The captain? She's the captain of what?"

"Captain of the *Western Star*! Out of Shelburne. Bound for Gloucester."

"What's her name, Mr. Hanson?"

"The *Western Star*!"

"You blockhead! The girl's name!"

"Captain Doonan, sir. Begging your pardon."

"Old Doonan's kid?"

"The same!"

"She's got more brass than her grandfather! And that's a lot!"

"So I gather, sir!"

The cutter captain turned to the officers at his elbow. With some thoughtful glances and head shakings, they looked the *Star* up and down.

One of them cried out, "The *Hind* taking any water, Hanson?"

"She gave herself a rap, but she's sound. So is this!" He stamped his boot on the deck. "The hull, I mean."

The officers fell to talk again, which was interrupted by the captain's word to Nora. "Captain Doonan!"

"Sir?"

"You tell me yourself, please. What do you want that hulk for?"

She told him. When she had finished, one of the officers said, "I told you so!" in such a loud voice that she could hear him.

The matter was settled, right then and there, by the engineer officer of the cutter. According to the universal law which rules such matters in the watery parts of the world, he was a Scot, or had been, and he spoke Scotch. He cried out to the warrant, "Lass wants yon hulk?"

"Lass do!" replied Mr. Hanson.

"Lass'll have her, then!"

At this, he took his nod from the captain and went down to his black gang and his own pumping gear. The deck officers passed a hawser on to the *Hind* and pulled her off. The *Western Star* came up a few inches. The Guardsmen rigged a ten-inch hosepipe, ran its nozzle down into the *Star*'s main hatch, and the pumping began. Before moonrise, they had taken many tons of water out of her. The cutter then took her in tow, still pumping as they ploughed along.

The *Hind* ambled along to leeward.

It was late Monday night—not yet Sunday—when the creeping voyage ended and the *Star*'s business was done.

Nora and Hardegon, clad in long white togs again, stood by the great bow where earlier generations had seen the *Golden Hind* leave for the

Grand Banks. There the generations had awaited her returns, always knowing that her crowded sails would bring her home, rich or poor, pens empty or full. During many a long night, Nora had curled up in that windowseat to watch for the gleam of topsails beyond old Thatcher's two towers. That was a watch she was never to keep again. The *Hind*'s sails had been furled forever. A great engine was to do their work henceforth. Her dories had been piled on the Doonan Wharf. They had been the last dories ever to be carried out of Gloucester. The long big-mesh nets would do their work hereafter.

The times had changed. The *Hind*, at last, had changed with them. In her heart, Nora was glad of it. She, too, might now change, might become a woman instead of a workman. Nevertheless, her farewell to the past filled her with a nostalgic sorrow for old times. She turned her head toward the great chair by the firelight, where she had kept her last vigils with that old man who had so fiercely and proudly clung to the past. It was easy for her to summon up the image of Grandfather Doonan, serenely waiting there for the end of his long watch. She trembled.

Hardegon held her with his arm and whispered, "Tis all right, Nora! He'd have said 'Yes!' if he knew all that you know."

Hardegon pushed the curtain to one side. He saw the shipyards and the wharves. Beyond the Doonan Wharf, the twin ways of Dunton Yards lay in a blaze of arc lights. He saw forges gleaming and men passing back and forth on two decks—one the *Western Star*'s, the other the *Golden Hind*'s. Both decks were bare now. To him, they were more beautiful than ever, in this, the end of the old life, the beginning of the new. Even while he watched, a steel giant swung down a black hand and fumbled along the *Hind*'s rail.

Despite his knowledge that this had to be, that the change had to come, Captain Hardegon could not keep that same nostalgic pain out of his own heart. The *Hind* had been his sea home; would be again, yet not the same. He knew how much keener that pain must be in Nora's heart.

He embraced her and made her give her mouth to him. He held her roughly to him until she gave in. He whispered, "The old story, Captain! You want to hear it?"

"I know it. I'll hear it, Dan."

He told and she said, "When?"

"Tomorrow!"

She looked away from the firelight and out of the window.

He saw the giant's hand close on the *Hind*'s mighty mainboom. He felt Nora tremble again. He whispered, "Remember what I told you when you started out to save the *Hind*?" She could make no answer. He said, "I told you, 'Captains don't cry!' But here's one—you—that can cry now. For a little while. A very little while."

The steel hand swung the mainboom away into the dark.

"There!" he said. "The old *Hind*'s gone! The new *Hind* remains."

The tears came to her cheeks. She cried a little in his arms, like a child who has lost something dear.

He kissed her cheek, lifted his hand and touched her forehead in compassion. He whispered, "Now listen! Listen, chum! Don't you hear what I hear?"

And she did listen until she heard an old man gloriously shout, "Hard-a-lee! Hard-a-lee! Oh, lively now!"

And a beautiful mainsail, shouting its own uproarious anthem, thundered across a certain deck and fell on to the new tack so loudly that she could hardly hear the ancient voice crying, "Ah, that's well, chums! Steady so, the *Hind*!"

(The End)

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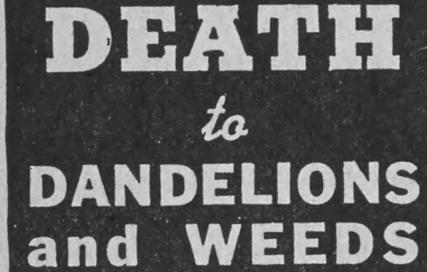
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U.K. Food Contract Extended

ANNOUNCED in parliament on March 26, the present contract with the United Kingdom for Canadian ham and bacon will be extended to cover a minimum of 350 million pounds in 1947, and 400 million pounds in 1948, with an increase in price to \$25 per 100 pounds f.o.b. seaboard, basis Grade A Wiltshire from now to the end of 1947, and not less than the current contract price of \$22.50 for the year 1948.

Between now and January, 1947, an attempt will be made to assess U.K. requirements for 1949 and arrange a contract for that year. The Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture announced that the new price would mean an increase to the farmer of \$2.00 per hog, the Canadian Meat Board, having announced on March 29, a reduction in the premiums on Grade A and B1 hogs, as of April 1, from \$3.00 to \$2.00 on Grade A and from \$2.00 to \$1.00 on B1. The net increase of \$2.00 per hog also was made effective April 1.

An agreement has also been reached covering 600,000 cases of evaporated milk per year for the period ending March 31, 1948, as well as 3,000 tons of roller-dried skim milk powder from 1946 production. Canada will supply Britain with 1,750,000 cases of shell eggs, and 5,000 tons of dried eggs in 1947, basis the present shell egg prices, thus extending the current contract one year. The present cheese contract calling for 125 million pounds annually to March 31, 1947, will be extended one year at present prices. The United Kingdom will require all the beef and mutton Canada can spare this year, and probably also in 1947 and 1948; and discussions looking to an extension of the present beef contract are continuing.

Calgary Bull Sale Averages \$392

CANADA'S premier annual bull sale, operated at Calgary since 1901 by the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association, was held for the 46th time this year from March 18 to March 22, and yielded a total of \$405,281 from the sale of 953 bulls (\$374,415), 85 females (\$20,350) and a return from the sale of baby beef and fat stock, of \$10,916.

The sale average of \$392 this year fell below the 1945 record of \$456, by \$64.17. In all, 953 bulls were sold, consisting of 624 Herefords, averaging \$442; 178 Shorthorns averaging \$325; and 151 Angus averaging \$263.

A total of 32 bulls went through the sale to bring more than \$1,000 each. Of these, 25 were Herefords, four Aberdeen-Angus and three Shorthorns. Top sale price this year was \$4,000, received by W. A. Crawford-Frost of Caerleon Ranch, Nanton, Alberta, from H. W. Herron. Mr. Crawford-Frost averaged \$1,891 for 10 head.

It is interesting to note that the 32 head selling for \$1,000 or more came from 16 herds, contributing 84 bulls, or less than 10 per cent of the total of the sale. Of these, nine Hereford herds brought out 25 of the top-priced bulls, three Shorthorn herds contributed

three tops, and four Aberdeen-Angus herds, one each. The Shorthorn top came from the herd of the University of Alberta, and was purchased by N. D. Latimer, Bowden, for \$1,200, while the top Aberdeen-Angus was contributed by R. R. Buchanan, Pincher Creek, and was bought by H. A. Spiller, Daysland, Alberta, for \$1,525. Thus, all three sales tops remained in Alberta.

All of the 85 females sold remained in Alberta, except six which went to Washington State. Of the Hereford bulls, 26 went to Saskatchewan, two to B.C., one to Ontario, eight to Montana and one to Colorado. Of the Shorthorn bulls purchased by individuals, one went to Manitoba and six to Montana, while of the Aberdeen-Angus, 11 went to Washington, one to Saskatchewan and two to B.C. In addition, the Production Service of the Dominion Department of Agriculture bought 61 Herefords, 35 Shorthorns, and ten Aberdeen-Angus. The Alberta Department of Agriculture bought 46 Herefords, 23 Shorthorns, and 38 Aberdeen-Angus, while the Federal Department of Indian Affairs bought 42 Hereford and two Shorthorns. In all, the Production Service purchased 106, the Alberta Department of Agriculture 107, and the Department of Indian Affairs, 44. Thus a total of 637 out of 953 bulls sold at the sale, or almost exactly two-thirds, appear to have stayed in the province of Alberta.

Menace From Wind Erosion

WHAT is considered to be a far more serious menace from wind erosion than the old dust bowl of the U.S. southern plains area, arises today from dry weather in 1945, the breaking of land out of native sod or other cover for war production, and the absence of crops residue in the soil.

Late last fall, 4.5 million acres of land in the Great Plains area were in a condition to blow, of which 3.5 million acres were in the southern plains (Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico). A severe dust storm early in February rose from the reddish soils of northwest Oklahoma and southwest Kansas, and contrasted with the "black blizzards" of the '30's, when, within a 50-million-acre area in the southern plains alone, six million acres were subject to severe blowing.

Eire Has Five Year Plan

PRICE guarantees for farmers during the postwar period are becoming characteristic of government action in several countries. Eire has accepted proposals made by a committee on postwar agriculture, and will guarantee markets and prices for dairy products for the next five years. The Eire government will also provide increased premiums for dairy bulls, to be paid by county committees of agriculture. Registration of dairy cattle will be modified to bring about higher standards of milk and butterfat requirements. A classification will also be provided in the official dairy cattle register for "designated" cows of the Shorthorn breed, which may not qualify for regis-

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tration as purebreds. A bonus will be provided for each bull good enough for licensing, which results from the mating of registered or designated cows with registered dairy bulls.

Cow testing and dairy cattle improvement associations will be encouraged, and a levy of two pence per hundred gallons on milk delivered to creameries and milk boards will be made as a contribution toward a cow testing scheme. In 1945, there were 54,874 cows on test in Eire in 202 associations. The average yield of milk per cow is estimated at 4,000 pounds.

Production of butter in Eire last year was 604,783 cwts. (112 pounds), whereas consumption was 585,234 cwts. Cost of butter production is said to be 290s per cwt., and a subsidy of 63s 6d per cwt. is provided to hold the butter price under the ceiling of 2s 4d per pound.

In the government's price fixing plan for dairy products, the producer will be guaranteed the same relative price for milk in relation to the cost of feeding stuffs as exists at present. Subject to three years' notice, the price fixing system will be continued beyond the five year period.

Science Helps the Farmer

DR. Robert Salter, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, the United States Department of Agriculture, recently commented that, "Until principles of science are applied on the farm, their value to agriculture is unrealized. It has been estimated, for example, that new varieties of wheat distributed to farmers since World War I added about 100 million bushels to the 1944 crop of hard red spring wheat. In a similar recent appraisal, it was estimated that improved varieties of rice grown on 48 per cent of the southern rice acreage in 1944, gave yields 13 per cent higher than the standard old variety, and added nearly \$10,500,000 to the grower's income."

World Record for Calves Sired?

WHAT is believed to be a world record for the number of calves sired by an individual bull, is reported by the Farmer and Stock Breeder (England) Kingswood Homespun, a British Friesian (Holstein) bull in use at the Cambridge Insemination Centre until very recently, has sired over 3,000 calves and has been replaced by another from the same breeder. Kingswood Homespun is being returned to the farm from which he originally came, and being replaced by a son of a 200-pound cow, daughter of the famous Friesian Kingswood (int.) Roosje.



BRITAIN
BELEAGUERED

Continued from page 5

The rate of mechanization of the English farms during the war has been nothing less than spectacular. I attended a farm discussion at a little Essex hamlet rejoicing in the picturesque name of Steeple Bumstead. There were about a hundred alert farm operators present, nearly all in the upper age brackets. The chief topic of discussion was the value of plowing from twelve to eighteen inches deep on clay land. Such a discussion would have been pointless before the tractor became well nigh universal. Likewise for ditching and the breaking of land smothered with buckthorn the tractor has been indispensable. The wide adoption of the small combines has been even more revolutionary in its effect than the multiplication of tractors.

In the interwar years Sir George Stapledon estimated that nine million acres of permanent grass in England and Wales could be plowed, not all of it, however, suitable for cereals. That only six million of it was broken is not a measure of Britain's need. It represents the limits of power, labor, implements, and fertilizer available for dealing with an increased arable surface.

Between the two wars agriculture was the Cinderella of British politics. Apart from three instances no constructive or farsighted policies were inaugurated. Farm operators bore the full weight of the catastrophic drop in world prices for agricultural products. The land was broken up for human food production 1914-1918 went back to permanent grass. Many of her farmers became "stick-and-dog men," herdsmen and flockmasters who owned no implements. Vast tracts of potentially good plow land became little more than exercise grounds for livestock reared on imported feed.

Of the three policies in support of agriculture, the one which has borne fruit most abundantly during the course of this war was state support for scientific research. One slice of the money went to the Grass Research Laboratory at Aberystwyth, North Wales, under Sir George Stapledon. Associated with it was the Grassland Experiment Station at Dodwell, Warwickshire. Incidentally, the fields at Dodwell are on the western outskirts of Stratford-on-Avon and one likes to fancy that the town boys in Shakespeare's youth poached rabbits there, or went bird nesting in the towering oaks that border the fields where English genius has flowered again in a humbler way.

Stapledon has taught modern England the art of grass farming. He has taught her farmers why old pastures deteriorate, why permanent grassland as maintained in the British Isles declines in fertility. Science has in late years discovered the part which bacteria plays in the maintenance of soil fertility. Stapledon has translated that knowledge into a practical appreciation of sod, its production and decay. He and his associates have developed new strains of grass for every practical need, some of which will mean as much to the English farmer as Marquis or Red Bobs wheat to prairie Canada. Most of all he has rediscovered for British agriculture "ley farming."

Ley farming or alternative rotations mean short rotations of arable crop alternated with approximately an equal length of time with grass. For instance one type of ley would call for the following succession of crops in the same field: wheat, sugar beets, potatoes, barley sown as a nurse crop; four years in grass. Likewise the fields at Dodwell have accustomed English farmers to the old idea of plowing old stands of mediocre grass in order to seed grasses on the over-turned sod which will produce a thicker, more persistent sward. It is a significant fact that while six million acres of permanent grass was sown up after 1939 the cow population of England and Wales was increased by 12 per cent. Stapledon's dairies were growing more cow feed on land. The amount of fluid milk marketed rose by 36 per cent, part of

this latter being due to a reduction in cheese making. In all these years of strict food rationing it is a commonplace that the children of England never looked better. The bigger milk ration set aside for them is in a large measure responsible.

The dairy cow of prewar England was dependent on large amounts of imported concentrates. From the beginning of the war supplies decreased sharply. After 1941 they were rationed and allocated to the higher yielding cows. The dairymen of England had to find another source of protein if they were to keep up milk yields.

SCIENTISTS have known for a long time that young grass contains a far higher percentage of protein than grass cut at the ordinary stage for hay. Hay made from young grass, then, would lessen the need for concentrates. But young hay is harder to cure in any climate, particularly in the British Isles. Here is a story of how the problem was met as told by Dr. W. K. Slater to an assembly of scientists at the British Institution:

"In order to overcome this difficulty silage making from young grass has been developed. This consists of cutting the grass and packing it tightly either in a silo or in a pit, where fermentation takes place, leaving a palatable material with a high feeding value. The nature of the fermentation depends on the acidity of the mass of grass, and where fresh cut herbage alone is used considerable quantities of the nutrients are used in producing the necessary acidity, whilst not infrequently the acidity is not produced before organisms which give an unpalatable and inferior silage have got to work, with the result that the silage is poor and often of a character which stock will not eat.

"Methods were therefore evolved to control the fermentation, the first being the addition of hydrochloric acid to increase the initial acidity and the second the addition of molasses, which rapidly ferments to organic acids with the same ultimate results. By these means high quality, palatable silage can be made with few failures and the farmer can preserve the rich young grass for feeding at will.

"It was also known that certain of the forage crops, particularly narrow stem kale, had a high feeding value with a relatively high protein content when compared with roots. Farmers were therefore encouraged to grow kale and to feed it to dairy cows.

"Tables were prepared and distributed and hundreds of lectures and talks were given to help farmers to use scientific data in the calculation of rations. Thousands of men who before the war would have been bewildered without their cake supplies are today growing and compounding a large part of the food for their stock. As an example may be quoted the 11 hundredweight cow giving 40 pounds of milk daily. On the prewar basis the ration might have consisted of 20 pounds of roots and 30 pounds of inferior hay from the farm, to which might have been added four pounds of cotton seed cake and 10 pounds of flake maize purchased from overseas. Under wartime conditions this could be replaced by 20 pounds of kale, 20 pounds of silage, 20 pounds of good hay, five pounds of bean meal and five pounds of oats, all produced at home."

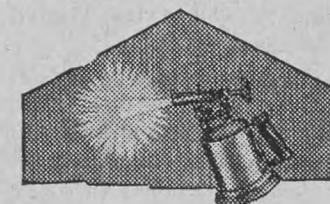
As the encouragement of science was the first of the interwar policies so was the fostering of the sugar beet industry the next most important. In 1925 the government of the day passed an act subsidizing the growing of beets. Its final outcome has been firstly to safeguard the nation's supply of sugar during the war. The ubiquitous saccharine vials of the first war were hardly ever seen in this one. But the most important feature of the new crop was the stiffening that it put into arable farming. It provided one profitable crop around which farmers could build a rotation. Wartime increase in sugar production has been only 23 per cent as against 82 per cent in wheat and 112 per cent in potatoes but nevertheless it is hard to overestimate the importance beet growing has played in maintaining "high farming," arresting the drift back to grass in the interwar years, and providing impetus to the spread of ley farming since war began.

Turn to page 84



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In England Now

Spring brings its own preoccupations, food, floods and tulips

By JOAN M. FAWCETT

Thursday, February 14, 1946. I wonder what would strike you most about us here in England if you came. It is difficult to see yourself objectively when you are living with yourself all day. Would you notice the thickness of our stockings or the fact that we never seem to wear a hat? Hats are far too expensive and most of them far too silly. Or that we still queue for fish and cakes and fruit; or that some of our houses want painting very badly while others are so newly painted that they gleam in the sunshine? There is no half measure. Or that there are still a lot of Italian and German prisoners about but that our own soldiers are getting less and the American and Australian practically non-existent.

The thing that we notice about ourselves of course is food. Food, food and again food! It is the big headlines, the country-wide preoccupation. And we are getting tired of it, so tired that at the mention of food most housewives could scream. We thought it was going to be easier but now we are plunged down into the depth of depression about it again after the ministry of food's announcements. We were told suddenly that there would be no more dried egg. Now we may have complained about the rather dull taste of dried egg in the past but when we were told we were going to have to do without it we rose up in wrath at having to part with our old standby. You see town dwellers, registered with a grocer for eggs, will often go for weeks in the winter without getting a shell egg at all and if they have to do without dried egg as well they will be rather stumped. One's protests have changed the verdict to: no dried eggs till May. Our fat ration of two ounces a week each has been cut to one ounce, with a warning in the paper this morning that it may have to go even further. Bread is to go darker again and in consequence animal feeding stuffs will be scarcer. What a tale of woe! If it wasn't spring and a mild one now too, with the snowdrops out and the birds singing each morning, I don't know what we would do. But it is spring and so we survive without feeling too suicidal.

In many of the big towns, where things are the most difficult, women have got together in great meetings of protest, sometimes as many as a thousand strong. They draft protests either in the form of letters or telegrams to the minister of food, or else a deputation from them goes personally to see him. They feel, and very rightly, that they ought to have been told sooner that this shortage was coming, so that they could make some sort of provision against it. We had thought: "Peace is here; now things will gradually get easier. We mustn't expect anything too great just at first but gradually things will come back to normal!" But it is not so and we are disappointed.

Another trial that some of us have had to bear during this last week has been floods. We have had very little snow this year but the first part of February has been far wetter than for many years. My parents-in-law live in Derbyshire in a village beside a river—in fact their garden goes down to the river—and last Friday night they sat upon their stairs and watched the water running through from the drawing-room to fill the hall to a depth of two feet and then go on to swamp the kitchen and the larder. Luckily for them, they had foreseen the danger and had managed to get some of their carpets up and to carry some of the lighter furniture upstairs and to put their food onto the top shelves but it was a heart-

breaking sight to see the floors and walls getting saturated with mud and sand and to know that outside their precious, very small, ration of coal was under water and probably being washed away. In some towns thousands of pounds worth of damage has been done that under present circumstances, with shortage of labor and materials it will be nearly impossible to repair. Furniture has been lost or ruined, clothes and food saturated past use, gas and electrical equipment completely put out of order. And this at a time when there are not remotely enough houses for everyone anyway or enough furniture and fitting to go in those there are.

Friday, February 15, 1946. Today I forgot the troubles of yesterday. I went by bus to a village not far from here, and crossing the road went in through the big gates of a nursery garden. The prospect inside was not unlike a camp in the morning light, but instead of huts stretching in every direction there were greenhouses. A few sleepy men and girls wandered in and out of sheds and an old man encouraged a grey horse to pull a load of coke. I was led across the yard to a wooden, tarred shed and as I entered through the door my heart leapt. There they were in all their glory, thousands of tulips—red, copper, yellow, white, mauve, pink. Down the whole length of the shed they filled every bit of table space, making the dim place glow with color and scenting the air with a clean sweetness. They had all been gathered from the greenhouses the night before and were waiting to be packed up for despatch to the towns. Flowers are one of our very highly priced luxuries. Some were already in bunches, standing in dark green tins, their red petals like licks of flame between the green leaves.

I picked up a tulip and it was crisp and cool in my hand like a new thing but I knew that in reality it had weathered a war. For it had come to this state of perfection in the fields of Holland while German soldiers fought and marched upon the roads. In spite of the shortage of labor, food and warmth the Dutchman had doggedly continued to propagate his bulbs. They were his life blood, his living and his pride. Dutch bulbs had been the best the world over and no German invader was going to deprive him of that boast. And so for the last four years this actual bulb had been growing from a seedling to this perfect, shining-skinned specimen that I held in my hand. Each spring of those four years, as the flowers came they were cut off just below the petals and thrown onto a great many-colored heap at the field gate, so that sap from the leaves and stalks might go back into the bulb and feed it for another year's growth.

When the Canadian soldiers came to drive the invaders from the soil of Holland, the Dutchmen were ready with letters and price lists for their English customers—those customers with their scanty stocks of coke and their greenhouses full of tomatoes.

Saturday, February 16, 1946. I had been thinking about the last two days as I went by train to Birmingham this morning to broadcast for the BBC. And as I waited for my train back this evening, I saw on the bookstall a picture that was the visual symbol of my thoughts. It was the cover to a book entitled "Overture"; in the foreground were the ruined roofs and gaping windows of bombed houses—brown, dreary and hopeless—but behind, growing from the waste, reaching up into the light was one perfect tulip, its petals glowing with the light from the rising sun.

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The Countrywoman

Quebec knows the types of houses it wants to see its people build

By AMY J. ROE

QUEBEC, among the provinces of Canada, has set itself seriously to the task of encouraging its people to build houses, marked by beauty and possessing features of old French tradition that will give them an air of distinction. It is intended that they should bring about a pride of ownership and win and hold the admiration of visitors.

To this end an attractive little booklet, *A Beautiful Home In A Beautiful Province*, has been published with text in French and English appearing in parallel columns. It has attractive four-color illustrations showing architects' drawings, elevations, floor plans and considerable detail on such matters of interest as: thresholds, fireplaces, stairways, cupboards, windows and doorways. Suggestions are offered as to suitable construction and materials noting whether these are field or square-cut stone or lumber and the nature and color of the roofing, so that the builder may have a clear idea of how to secure the picturesque effect desired.

This worth-while piece of work comes as a result of competitions among architects for suitable designs carried out by the provincial government in the early 1940's and with the announcement that others will likely follow. The Premier of Quebec in a foreword points out: "Fine architecture is a prominent sign of civilization."

Judging from opinions expressed by connoisseurs in Canada, Europe and the United States, as well as those from various South American republics, we may well be proud of our French-Canadian architecture. Unfortunately, however, a number of our own people are indifferent in the matter of conserving the vestiges of ancient buildings, or of building according to tradition.

"One of the main ideas of this competition was to supply our rural inhabitants, who are so closely connected with ancient traditions, with models of houses which would be suitable for them; and the Department of Agriculture has been entrusted with the task of carrying out an educational campaign on the subject. . . .

"We are doing our utmost to make French-Canadian architecture widely known, without overlooking modern requirements of health and comfort. That is why the plans we are offering today, while they conform to styles handed down from generation to generation, are modernized in certain practical adaptations so as to keep pace with modern-day progress."

An estimate of the value of the competition is given by the president of the Quebec Association of Architects: "The graceful lines of the French-Canadian farmhouse have been admired by all. Unfortunately, in our villages, these charming lines are too often lost because the houses are too close to the streets and crowd one another.

"Some day, in the future, when our towns and villages have had the wisdom to adopt regulations for town planning and orderly building, we may see homes, such as these shown here, placed further back from the street, in harmony with each other, surrounded by lawns and gardens. Then our villages will be more beautiful and pleasant in their surroundings, and the setting of each house will outwardly proclaim the occupant's pride in ownership, pride in citizenship.

"Let us hope that the publication of these plans may help to hasten that day."

It should be noted that no estimate of the cost of building a house from any of the 19 designs illustrated, is furnished. The name of the architect accompanies each design. It is understood that while the competition was held under government auspices and the prizes awarded for the best two in each of the four projects, with addition of those winning mention, the working drawings and fees charged for same remain the property of the individual architect and the prospective house builder will make his own arrangements for securing these. An architect is in much the same position as the writer of a book, the more people who want to read a book the more the novelist earns in royalties, so with a house plan, the more people who want to build from a given design, the greater returns there are for the man who has the imagination and the skill to create it.

It might seem strange, at the first thought to some of us, that the Quebec government put the competition into the hands of the Tourist and Publicity Bureau and put upon that Bureau the further duty of publishing the results but this was done as the Premier explains: "because it is accomplishing a great deal in spreading the knowledge of our province, because it is well known that everything that is characteristic of our province attracts visitors and holds their attention."

Though being done in the name of good business Mr. Maurice Hebert, Director of the Tourist Bureau, was careful to impress upon me that the underlying and chief motive is beauty in everyday living. I called at his office, while on summer travels, one day late in June last summer. He was most gracious in giving me information and hunting up photographs of French houses, in studying the plans before us. I quote his own words, in part, from the booklet:

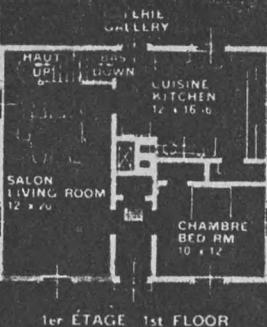
"The soul of French Canada found its expression in the beauty of its architecture, its furnishings and draperies, and in the decoration and arrangement of furniture; in brief, in the surroundings of our homes and their attractive French-Canadian gardens. . . .

"All this was a part of the outward appearance which we created in our surroundings, revealing our own character and our special way of giving life to ordinary things. They formed part of our language. They completed the spoken word, explaining and adding to the richness of pure sound and meaning.

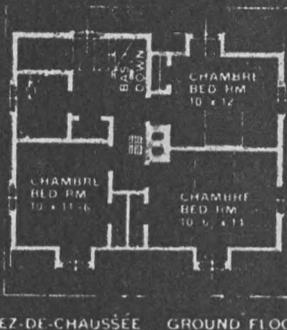
"Fortunately, notable traces of our ancient architecture may still be found and to explore the treasures entrusted to our keeping is in itself an emotional historic pilgrimage; it is like reading a priceless volume page by page, or carefully examining fabulous gems stone by stone, more interesting and full of meaning than a crowded library."

Pondering over these statements of a premier, the president of an architects' association and a responsible publicity man, one can not help but regret that other provinces in this Dominion are much less concerned in and sure of the types of houses they want their people to build. Apart from officials of National Housing Administration, which concerns itself mainly with financing of housing, there is a marked lack of interest in types of dwellings constructed or how they fit into their surroundings. There is a lack "at the top" of thinking and planning for Canadian housing. There is no one with the necessary authority or power to do anything to encourage architects to produce desirable designs. And architects, like other persons who work for a living depend upon encouragement and salary or fees to produce good work.

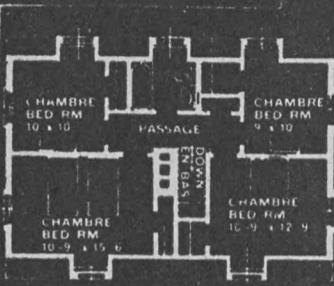
So many matters in these days, in the name of good or pressing business are set far ahead of the idea of having "a beautiful home in a beautiful province." Quebec is to be congratulated. It is time some of the other provinces tried to equal or surpass her lead.



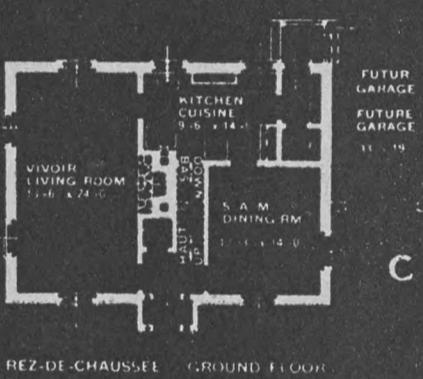
HOUSE B



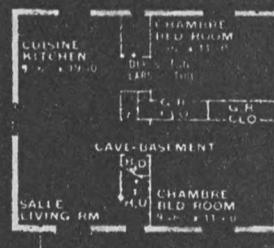
REZ-DE-CHAUSSEE GROUND FLOOR



HOUSE C



HOUSE D



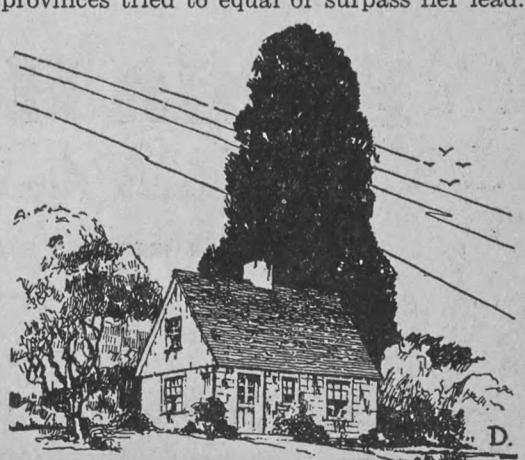
PLAN DU 1er ÉTAGE FUTUR
FUTURE 1st FLOOR PLAN



Town or village house for an average family.



House for a farmer's son—could be enlarged later.



A Settler's house—storey-and-a-half.

M-m-h! Good! Robin Hood Coffee Cake!

It's a hit at every meal . . .

Just right for breakfast, lunch, supper . . . with coffee, tea or cocoa

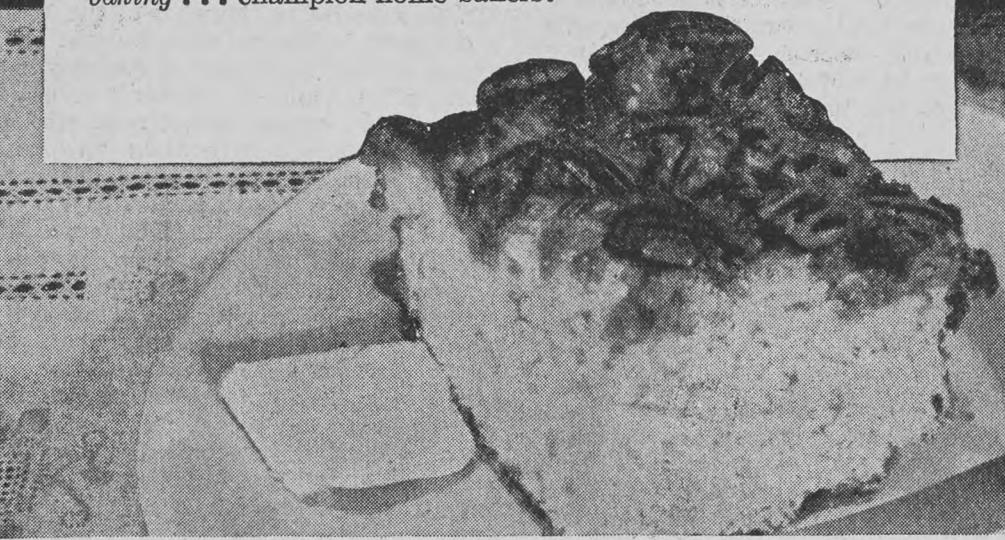
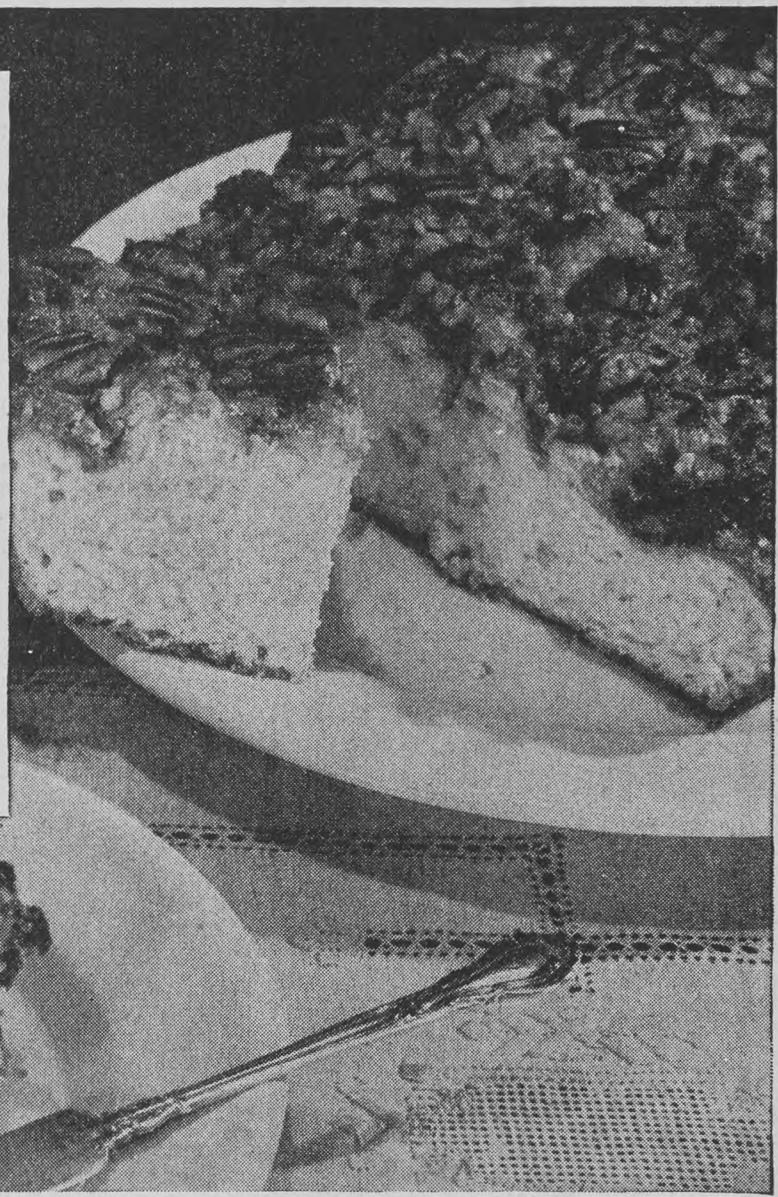
Bring in this coffee cake, light, fresh, spicy . . . hot from the oven.

Then watch the appetites grow bigger. "More, please!" If your baking lasts through that meal, serve it again at the next . . . and see the last crumb gobbled up. That's because Robin Hood Plain Coffee Cake is just right, any meal, *anytime!*

And Robin Hood Flour is *just right* too . . . for *all* your baking! For crisp-crusted bread . . . for pastry, cakes, biscuits, batter puddings. That's why it's known as the *all-purpose* flour.

And here's why you can be confident of success when you use Robin Hood Flour. We're so sure it is *the best* that there's a written money-back plus 10% guarantee in every bag.

Use Robin Hood Flour for all your baking. Then you'll learn why it's the choice of 4 out of 5 women who win prizes for baking . . . champion home-bakers!



Winner of 232 baking prizes always uses Robin Hood Flour



Mrs. Ellen Renwick, Milestone, Sask., who has the unique distinction of having won baking prizes *every year* she has entered contests since her first successful effort in 1916, says this:

"I have used Robin Hood Flour for all my baking for 30 years, and I con-

sider it to be the best flour on the market. To date I have won 232 baking prizes, and I say 'thanks' to Robin Hood for my many successes at the Regina Exhibition and at local Fairs."

"In those 30 years I have never had a bread failure, and to me the smooth perfection and flavor of Robin Hood Flour gives all baking a winning texture. I shall continue to use Robin Hood for all my baking, as I believe it will always be rated the best flour."

Robin Hood Plain Coffee Cake

2 cups sifted Robin Hood Flour
3 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt

2 tbsp. granulated sugar
4 tbsp. shortening
1 egg, well beaten
2/3 cup milk

TOPPING: 1/4 cup brown sugar, 1/2 tsp. cinnamon, 1 tbsp. Robin Hood Flour, 2 tbsp. melted butter; 1/4 cup chopped nuts.

1. Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees F. Grease an 8 x 8 x 2 inch cake tin.
2. To prepare topping: Mix brown sugar, cinnamon and flour together. Add melted butter. Combine thoroughly with a fork and add chopped nuts.
3. Measure sifted flour into sifter, add baking powder and salt. Sift together into mixing bowl. Add sugar.
4. Measure shortening, cut into small pieces (this simplifies the blending later) and add to dry ingredients in bowl.
5. Blend together until mixture is mealy, using pastry blender (or two knives, cutting in with scissor-like motion).
6. To beaten egg, add milk.
7. Make a well in the centre of dry mixture and gradually add the egg and milk, stirring lightly with fork. Mix only until soft dough is formed.
8. Turn into prepared cake tin. Pat gently to spread the dough in the tin. Sprinkle the topping evenly over the batter.
9. Bake at 400 degrees F. for 25 to 30 minutes.
10. Cut in squares and serve warm.

NOTE: If desired, Coffee Cake may be baked in deep round eight-inch layer cake tin and cut in pie-shaped pieces.

Robin Hood Flour

Milled from Washed Wheat
TRADE MARK

in Canada's newest and most modern flour mills

Listen to Claire Wallace

Trans-Canada Network — Mon., Wed., Fri.



This certificate guarantees your
money back, plus 10 per cent.

Spring Fashion Notes

Indicate that women's clothes this season are to be softer, prettier and more feminine

By Marion R. McKee

FOR the first time since 1939, fashions have taken a full swing into fascinating new styles. Spring is something to look forward to this year, and women's clothes are softer, prettier and more feminine than ever before. It is always a pleasure to tuck away

the dark colored clothes of winter and look forward to the refreshing ones of spring.

There is no monotony of color, and almost any becoming shade will fit into the wardrobe; anything from the dark colors, ranging down through red and fuschia, to the popular lime green, and so on down to the pastel shades that are so feminine. Prints are to the fore and the well dressed woman feels she must have a printed silk dress in her wardrobe. There is plenty of reason for this feeling, too, as the fresh, vibrant prints offered this year are a treat to behold. They simply can't be resisted. Rayon crepe and jersey and other attractive materials are presented in lovely printed patterns.

Fashions for spring 1946 swing away from the severely tailored lines. Soft drapery is up-to-the minute in fashion. Gathers at the waist, shoulders or side are stressed, with the material falling in soft folds. High necklines are the thing, and especially that new and smart turtleneck, for those with the swanlike throat. However, if blessed with a short neck, there are soft necklines that are still high and flattering.

Sleeves are accented. They are either full and long, or short and snappy, and are rounded rather than squared at the shoulder. The wing sleeve is the highlight, and be it very full or rather modest in cut, it flatters all. There is also the short, short sleeve that is almost no sleeve at all, or is only an extension of the shoulder, and this is becoming to many women and young girls. Armholes are cut deep, and fullness above the elbow is stressed. Sleeves may be cut in contrasting material to the body of the garment, or a band of contrasting material placed at the shoulder line.

There is a rumor to the effect that hemlines are on the way down—and just when nylons are coming back! However, the dresses seem to be about the same length here in the west, though in New York the hemlines are down to the middle of the calf. It would be a good idea to leave a wide hem on new dresses, just in case this fashion overtakes us.

The small waistline look is achieved this year, as there is fullness around the hips and sides, and the sleeves and bodice are full, making the waistline look tiny.

Women's suits at last look like women's suits, with their soft, pretty lines. Large wing sleeves with softly rounded shoulders are stressed; soft necklines that are high and squared; and gathers at the waist add to the femininity. Suits are collarless, or have a soft, small collar that is high on the neck. Belts on suits are the latest, and there are full belts and half belts that are designed to please and flatter. Tie belts in the front are new and different and help the waist look small. Some of the new suits have braiding, cord, stitching or trapunto work on them, while others are perfectly plain, with no trimming except for jewelry. Jackets may be a variety of lengths, from a short bolero to a below-the-hip three quarter. Looseness and freedom of movement is emphasized. Skirts also present a choice of styles, and are either slim and close fitting, minus pleats and fullness,

or may be gathered on a tight waistband with fullness or unpressed pleats or trouser pleats in the front. Usually the full skirt goes with the short jacket, while the straight skirt and long, loose jacket make a pair. Materials for suits present an endless choice. All colors are good, and plaids, checks and tweeds are very popular.

THERE is a great selection of coat styles this spring. Shorties, so prominent last year, are still being worn. Casual sport coats, cut along box lines, are popular. Belts are on their way back, and the very latest coats are belted with a matching or contrasting belt. Shoulders are rounded and sleeves are full and loose. The very latest in coats is a very full sleeve drawn in snugly at the wrist, so that it may be pushed up the arm and bloused out over the wristband. There is as wide a choice of materials for coats as there is for suits.

Lots and lots of blouses are a must for suits and skirts! Color, either plain, printed or striped, is stressed in this season's blouses. Wing sleeves are extra smart, and give that desired fullness around the shoulders that is up to date. Blouses are easy to make, too, and a yard or two of material plus a smart pattern are all that is needed. Turtlenecks and drapery are flattering lines for the new blouse. Be sure the material is washable before making a blouse, as they need to be freshened up often.

Hats are feminine, pretty and designed to flatter, and what is more important, present a wide choice of styles. This is one year where you may choose almost any style of hat and still be up to date—that is, of course, within reason. The tall, close fitting hat, that is like a cloche only higher in the back, is charming if you can wear it, and ever so smart. Pretty little straw hats trimmed with spring flowers or feathers are delightful. The ever popular sailor hats with veils and ribbons, and the small, small hat that consists mostly of flowers and veil, are both becoming. The very latest is a circlet of flowers worn at the hairline; not really a hat, but a good substitute for one. Pill boxes are also popular. Small or large, wide or narrow, tall or flat, the variety is great, and it's up to you to pick the style that suits you the best.

Possibly the newest item in the spring wardrobe will be the addition of a pair of long-awaited-for sheer nylon stockings. Designed for beauty, they will make this season a special occasion.

Due to the shortage of supplies, shoes have remained more or less unchanged in style. Open toes and sling

Turn to page 81



3015

For description of designs illustrated and other views turn to page 82

COAT
2961
SIZES
10-20

BLOUSE
2972
SIZES
12-48

3057
SIZES
12-20



BLOUSE
3017
SKIRT
2807

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3015



Luscious EASTER CANDY CAKE

Light,
Tender...
Made with
MAGIC

Here's a happy Easter surprise for the whole family! It's a melty-rich Candy Cake—sweet as springtime itself—yet it can be made using no sugar at all!

It does call for Magic Baking Powder, though, to help insure the delicate texture and delicious flavor that means perfect baking success. You can always depend on Magic for the best results in all baked dishes.

MAGIC EASTER CANDY CAKE

1/2 cup shortening **1** whole egg, unbeaten
1 cup corn syrup **2** egg yolks, unbeaten
2 1/2 cups cake flour (save whites for icing)
2 3/4 tsp. Magic Baking Powder **1/4** cup milk
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract **1/4** tsp. salt

If preferred, **3/4** cup sugar can be substituted for corn syrup; then milk should be increased to **3/4** cup.

Cream shortening, beat in syrup gradually, then stir in **1/4** of sifted dry ingredients, beating until blended. Beat in egg and yolks, one at a time. Add remaining flour mixture alternately with milk, beat after each addition. Add vanilla. Bake in 2 greased 8" layer pans in 375°F. oven for 30 min.

FROSTING: Put **1/8** tsp. salt, 2 egg whites, **1/2** cup corn syrup, **1/4** tsp. lemon extract and **1/4** tsp. almond extract in top of double boiler and beat over boiling water for 7 min. or until icing peaks. Frost cake—arrange **1/2** cup chopped chocolate-coated or plain peanuts on border around cake.



MADE
IN
CANADA



Easter Eggs in Nests

Jelly bean eggs in chocolate mixture nests form an attractive touch.

HERE is a novel idea to make ready for an Easter party. It is something pretty to set on the table to look at and in addition is a delicious treat to eat. Children will be delighted with these Easter sweets and even the most sedate adult will regard them with an interested eye. They are quite simple to make and will lend a festive air to an Easter meal.

1/2 lb. milk chocolate
3/4 lb. semi-sweet chocolate
3 c. Krumbles

Melt chocolate over hot but not boiling water; stir in Krumbles. Place tablespoons of the mixture on wax paper and form into shapes of nests. Allow chocolate to harden and then fill nests with the "eggs." Yield: 10 nests.

1/2 lb. egg-shaped jelly beans
 or fondants made into egg
 shape and gaily colored.

E GGS at Easter time are as important to a child as a new hat is to the lady of the house. Hunting for the gaily colored eggs left by the Easter Bunny provides gaiety for all. If the thought that perhaps eggs should not be used for such a purpose this year of food shortages has crossed your mind, your troubles are at an end. Harmless vegetable dyes may be used to color the eggs, and even if these get in by means of a crack, they are still good to eat. However, be sure to put the eggs in the refrigerator or a cool place as soon as they have been admired, as they will spoil if left at room temperature for any length of time. Be sure they are well cooked before dyeing too as this will increase their palatability as well as keeping qualities.

Eggs are healthful and nutritious, and an excellent substitute for meat. Nutritionists recommend at least three a week for health's sake, and if possible an egg a day. Inside the neat wrapping of its shell, there is contained a rich store of proteins in their complete form, iron, phosphorus, sulphur, some calcium and vitamins A, B, C, D, and G in small amounts. Ninety-seven per cent of the edible portion of an egg is digestible, which very few other foods can claim. For this reason, as well as their high nutritive value, eggs are an excellent food for all, and especially for children and sick people.

The value of eggs in cookery is well known. They thicken mixtures such as custards and sauces; they act as leavening agents by incorporating air through beating, as in omelets, angel cakes, sponge cakes, souffles and meringues; they make foods richer and better flavored, as in certain desserts, sauces and beverages; they dress up foods for serving, such as using hard-cooked eggs to garnish salads, soups, and cream sauces; and they bind ingredients together, as in croquettes and meat loaves. Eggs should

never be cooked at a high temperature, as this makes the white tough and harder to digest.

There are many ways to prepare and use eggs in appetizing dishes; in the preparation of all kinds of doughs and cakes, icings, salads, main dishes, beverages, desserts, salad dressings, beside many other ways. Here are a few recipes in which they are used for different parts of the meal.

First in Main Course Dishes

Eggs Supreme

6 egg whites Salt and pepper to taste
6 egg yolks, unbroken
6 slices bread

Toast the bread to a light brown color, butter it lightly, and trim the corners if desired. Then beat the egg whites stiff, adding a pinch of salt; pile the beaten white high on the toast slices, and make a shallow well in the centre of the top of the mound. Drop a whole yolk in each well, place the toast and eggs on a rack and bake them in a moderate oven (325 degrees Fahr.) until the egg white is a delicate brown color. Remove them from the oven, drop a small amount of butter on the yolk and serve them hot.

Salmon Souffle

1/2 c. milk **1/8** tsp. pepper
1/2 c. soft bread **1/8** tsp. paprika
 crumbs
1 can salmon, flaked **3** egg yolks
1/4 tsp. salt **3** egg whites

Heat milk, add crumbs, and cook five minutes. Add fish, salt, pepper and paprika. Add well beaten egg yolks. Cool slightly and fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Turn into a greased baking dish, and bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) about 50 minutes. Serve at once.

For Dessert Purposes

Apricot Souffle

3/4 c. apricot pulp Few grains salt
 Sugar **3** egg whites

Heat apricot pulp (cooked or canned fruit, drained and rubbed through sieve). Add sugar, if needed, and salt. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold into the

Let your doctor decide what is best for baby



By Meredith Moulton Redhead, Ph.B.
Baby Food Counselor of Heinz Home Institute

• Parents are often confused by the conflicting advice of relatives and well-meaning friends! Consult the doctor on all questions directly concerning baby's health. Certainly your doctor is a busy man—but never too busy to help keep your baby well. Always be sure that you ask his advice before making any feeding changes. For many years scientists of H. J. Heinz Company have been working with doctors and nurses both in the field of research and practical baby care. Heinz Strained Foods are the result of this cooperation. They are scientifically designed to provide the best nutritive values along with the most delicious flavours.

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fruit pulp. Turn into individual moulds—three-quarter full. Set in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahr.) 20 to 25 minutes. Serve at once.

Prune Souffle

Use the above recipe substituting prune pulp for the apricot pulp.

Apple Snow

3 egg whites
3/4 c. apple pulp
Powdered sugar

Pare, quarter, and core four sour apples, steam until soft and rub through a sieve (to make 3/4 cup apple pulp). Beat egg whites until stiff, add gradually apples sweetened to taste, and continue beating. Pile lightly on dish, chill, and serve with soft custard. Serves four.

Soft or Boiled Custard

2 c. scalded milk
3 egg yolks
1/2 c. sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. vanilla

Beat the yolks slightly with fork, add sugar and salt. Add milk gradually, stirring constantly. Cook and stir in double boiler until mixture coats the spoon. Strain, chill and flavor. Serves four. If custard curdles from over-cooking, beat with egg beater to restore smoothness.

Used in Salads

Sunset Salad

6 eggs, hard cooked
2 c. salmon
1/2 c. celery, cut fine
1/2 tsp. salt
Few grains pepper
1/2 c. salad dressing
2 T. lemon juice

Cut white from eggs, being careful to keep yolks whole; chop egg whites. Drain fish and flake; add celery, salt, pepper and chopped egg whites. Toss together and moisten with salad dressing and lemon juice. Pile mixture in centre of lettuce nests, and place a whole egg yolk on top of each serving; sprinkle with paprika. Serve with additional salad dressing. Serves six.

Eggs in Tomato Salad

6 small tomatoes
6 hard cooked eggs
Salt
Pepper
Mayonnaise
A few chopped olives

Cut the tomatoes in halves, crosswise. Scoop out the tomato halves sufficiently to accommodate half of a hard cooked egg. Cut the hard cooked eggs in two, crosswise, and take out the yolks. Mash these, adding the tomato pulp scooped out. Season with salt and pepper and add mayonnaise to make a paste. Fill the halved egg whites, decorating the top with a little mayonnaise in which a few chopped olives have been mixed, and sit each half into the tomatoes. Arrange in a bed of water cress or lettuce.

Handy for Beverages

Egg Lemonade

2 beaten egg yolks
Juice of 2 lemons
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
Ice water, 1 pint
1/2 c. sugar

Beat the sugar and egg yolks together. Add the lemon juice and nutmeg. Stir all together and add water. Serve with chipped ice.

Chocolate Eggnog

1 tsp. cocoa
2 tsp. sugar
1 egg yolk
1 c. hot milk

Mix cocoa and sugar and add to well beaten yolk. Stir in the milk slowly and serve hot or cold.

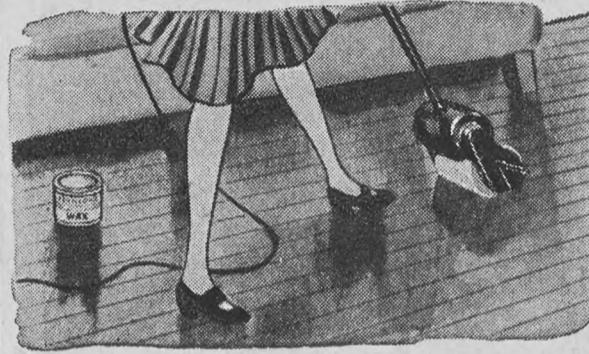
Using Leftover Yolks

After making a light angel cake and many other dishes using only the whites of eggs, there are a number of yolks left over. If they are not to be used immediately, put the unbroken yolks in a small container adding enough cold water to barely cover them, then cover the dish and put in a cool place. Broken eggs may be stirred and tightly covered in a bowl or jar.

Extra yolks may be used in cakes, milk beverages, pressed through a sieve as a garnish for salads or creamed dishes, or made into egg sauce. Yolks may also be substituted in many recipes for whole eggs, using three yolks for each whole egg called for in the recipe, and for each extra yolk used, one teaspoon of fat is deducted from the recipe.



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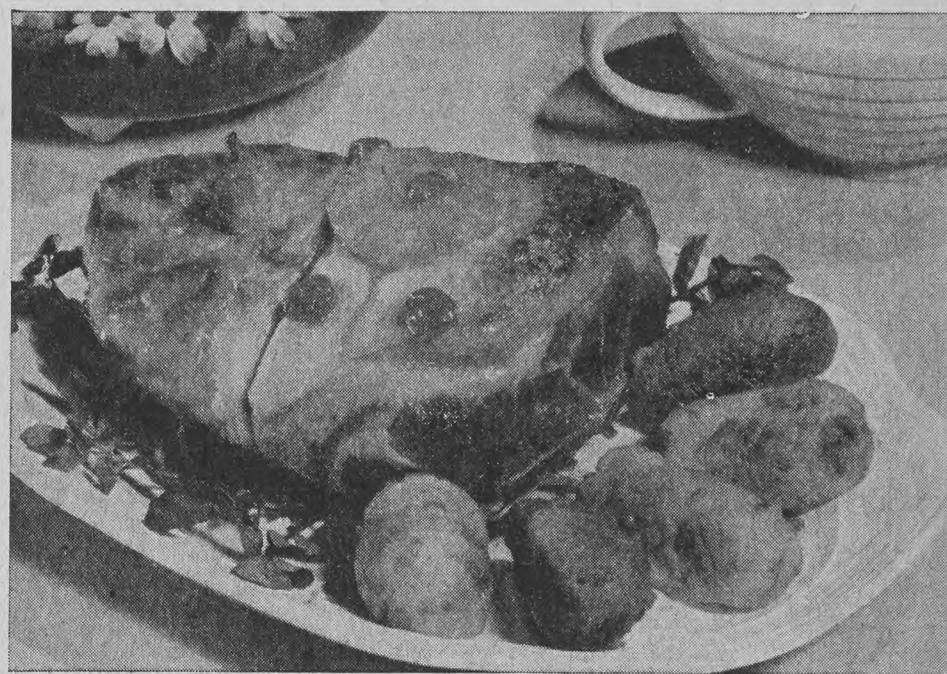
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Easter Sunday Dinner

Can be made a special event of interest by good choice of special foods and attractive decorative touches

By RUTH MERRIDITH



A baked ham, with tasty colorful garnish has good appetite appeal.

EASTER is a beautiful and significant time of year, and deserves special effort to make it a festive occasion. It is a time when the adults are filled with a solemn joy, while the children think of candy and Easter eggs.

This Easter will be especially joyous, and if a guest is coming to dinner, or if only the family are to be entertained on Easter Sunday, there will be a need for something special to serve. Food always has an important place to fill in any great occasion, and this is the time for the lady of the house to practise her finest arts of cookery.

Turkey and goose are the traditional roasts at Christmas, at Thanksgiving the turkey again holds the honors. For Easter the baked ham seems to be the preferred meat. Get your choicest ham from the barrel or the smokehouse. Leave the skin on, simmer until about half done. While cooking, add an onion, carrot and parsley for flavor. Remove from liquid, skin, score fat across to form squares or diamonds. Stick with cloves, pat on a layer of brown sugar, bake for an hour or more at 300 degrees. Cool, put on a platter and garnish. A noble dish if ever there was one!

In order to dress and make a ham out-of-the-ordinary, there are several ways to garnish it beautifully for the occasion. Apple or orange slices, or peach or apricot halves may be placed on the ham for the last half hour of baking, giving color and appeal. A glaze, consisting of brown sugar and mustard moistened with vinegar, if added toward the last of the baking, adds to the flavor and appearance of the roast. If you are having a special guest, and want the ham at its best, try basting it with ginger ale. This seems to blend in with the flavor of the meat and has a delicate flavor of its own.

The table settings and decorations will appear at their best. The table cloth or individual place mats must be spotlessly clean for the occasion, and may be either colored or white. The centre piece should carry out the Easter theme and give the table personality. Three of four colored Easter eggs surrounded by candy bunnies or chicks would be charming.

In planning an Easter dinner, why not try to follow the color scheme of the season? Violet, yellow and green are considered the Easter colors, and here are two menus following this theme:

Violet Color Scheme

Fruit Cup made with Grape Juice
Baked Ham Corn Fritters
Quartered Brown Potatoes String Beans

Easter Egg Salad and Crisp Rye Crackers
Violet Ice Cakes Frosted with Meringue
After Dinner Mints Coffee

Yellow and Green Color Scheme

Half Grapefruit
Green Olives
Roast Chicken Potatoes with Parsley
Creamed Onions Peas in Timbales
Water Lily Salad and Cheese Ring
Topaz Ice Cakes
(Spread with Peanut Butter, garnish with Candied Orange Peel)
Salted Nuts Coffee

Water Lily Salad

Cook eggs hard and put them into cold water to cool. Carefully remove shell and cut eggs lengthwise. Remove yolks and mash with a fork. Season and mix with salad dressing. Form into the centre of the flowers. Cut the whites in narrow strips and lay them around the centres, forming the petals of water lily. Garnish with water cress, marinated in French dressing.

Topaz Ice

1 can apricots 2 c. ginger ale
1 c. sugar Juice of 2 lemons
2 c. water

Rub apricots through a coarse sieve. Make a syrup of the water and sugar; boil ten minutes. Cool. Add the other ingredients and freeze.

Violet Ice

2 c. grape juice 2 c. sugar
4 c. water $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of citron, cut
Juice 2 lemons very fine

Make a syrup of the water and sugar and boil ten minutes. Cool. Add the other ingredients and freeze. Grape jelly may be used and part of the sugar eliminated. Melt the jelly and add to the hot syrup.

If you happen to be short on meat or would welcome a change, a fish dinner would be a treat. There is a variety of fish in the markets around this season, and fish is easily dressed up for any occasion. The following dinner is especially tempting, and the salmon may be substituted by other suitable fish.

Menu for Fish Dinner

Rhubarb and Apple Juice Starter
Broiled Salmon on Vegetable Platter
Mashed Potatoes
Small Baked Tomatoes or Onions Stuffed
with Peas
Canned Asparagus Tips
Ice Box Rolls Crabapple Jelly
Salad of Greens with French Dressing
Orange Sherbet Angel-food Cake
Coffee

Choose a salmon steak that is cut at least one inch thick. Wipe it clean with a damp cloth, and sprinkle with salt and roll in oil. Place it on a very hot cookie pan which has been greased to prevent the fish from sticking. Watch the steak carefully, turning it when

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necessary; allow 15 to 20 minutes, according to thickness, for cooking.

Fish is cooked through when it will flake easily, or the flesh begins to separate from the bone. To turn it on the cookie sheet, use two broad spatulas, or put a second cookie sheet over the fish and invert both sheets together, then remove the first sheet.

To dress up the platter; put the finished steak in the centre of a large and very hot platter. With a pastry tube, make a border of seasoned mashed potatoes near the edge of the platter. Between this border and the steak, place buttered asparagus tips and small baked tomatoes or onions stuffed with buttered peas. Be careful not to crowd the platter with too many vegetables; an extra supply may be put in another dish. From a separate dish serve lemon sauce with chopped parsley in it.

In combining foods, keep in mind that variety is the spice of life. Never, never serve the same food twice in a meal; such as tomato juice and a tomato jelly salad. Keep a variety in the textures of foods. An abundance of soft creamed foods is in poor taste, and a crisp salad or other food should be used with these. Bland foods, such as macaroni, should be combined with foods of a tangy nature, as is that well known macaroni and cheese dish. Eye appeal is import-

ant in planning a dinner. A colorful dinner consisting of meat garnished with parsley, browned potatoes and squash, is far more appetizing than a meal consisting of whitefish, mashed potatoes and cauliflower. The flavors of both these dinners are appetizing and both are nutritionally correct, but the color contrast in the first one makes it the more attractive. A little consideration given to these points will help you bring variety and flavor to a successful dinner.

When planning dinner, try to arrange it so the majority of cooking is done on the previous day, leaving the festive day free for the occasion. Have something easy to prepare, such as a fruit cup or half a grapefruit begin the dinner, instead of soup or something that has to be heated. The fruit cup may be placed on the table before the guests arrive. The roast or second course will have to be kept hot. The gravy may be made beforehand and placed in the top of a double boiler. Vegetables may also be kept ready to serve in this way. Desserts that may be served cold or at room temperature are the easiest, and a pie, gelatine dessert, cake or fruit are all good choices. If the desserts are individual size, have them all on a tray so only one trip is necessary. Be sure all necessary cutlery is available.

Painting Pointers

To keep in mind for Spring

A better job of enameling can usually be done if a good under-coating is applied first. Directions for use of both the under-coating and the enamel itself should be followed as outlined on the containers.

When the odor of fresh paint is objectionable—as it is to some people—it can be largely avoided by the use of charcoal. For each room, a paper bag holding a pound of charcoal is hung in the centre of the room. It absorbs the odor.

Cellar, basement or attic stairs often are dangerous because of inability of users to distinguish the steps or railings in dim light. Painting the edges of the treads and the railings of such stairways white will help prevent accidents which may have serious results.

When painting hard-to-get-at places and corners, use an old paint brush to poke and jab the paint into these places, saving your good brush for the straight-away surfaces.

When excess paint runs down the side of the can and forms a ring at the bottom when painting try gluing a paper plate to the bottom of the container to catch the drop, and incidentally, to serve as a rest for the paint brush.

It is easy to throw rubbish or discarded articles into dark corners where they will not be readily seen—a practice which would be unlikely in a better-lighted space where the discarded material would be conspicuous. White or light colored paint applied to rubbish-inviting spaces in attics, basements, closets and storerooms has been found decidedly helpful in discouraging untidy habits.

Added attractiveness can be given alcoves by painting such recesses to contrast with the rest of the wall space. For instance, cream or buff walls may have an alcove of pale green, soft blue or terra cotta. The alcove colors may be repeated in the chair seats, window draperies and blinds.

Paint usually appears considerably darker when applied to a large wall surface than it does on the small color chip from which it is selected. This should be taken into account when selecting colors. The darker appearance springs from the greater concentration of the same color on the larger surface.

Successful painting results are achieved in a wide range of temperatures but the ideal for paint application is between 60 and 80 degrees Fahr. In the case of varnish, many authorities recommended that it should not be applied when the room temperature is lower than 70 degrees.

Failure to paint the edges of window screens which do not show when the screen goes up in the spring can be a costly error. Lack of paint on the unseen edges allows the dampness to penetrate the wood, with resulting rotting and warping.

Before repainting over glossy enamel, it is as well to rub down the glossy surface with steel wool to remove the sheen and provide a better holding surface for the new coat of paint or enamel.

Brushes used in shellac or alcohol stain should be cleaned with alcohol. Brushes used in lacquer should be cleaned with lacquer thinner. Brushes used in water-thinned paint should be washed in water. Brushes used for regular oil paint can be cleaned in turpentine.

Do the dormers in your house stick out too much? They can be made to look smaller by painting their faces the same color that is on the roof, so that they visually become part of the roof, making the house appear lower. If you want to increase the visual height of the house, paint the dormers the color of the side walls.

Long, narrow rooms can be made to look wider by painting the two end walls a darker color than the long side walls. Square rooms can be given the illusion of length by painting the end walls in a lighter shade of the same color that is used on the side walls.

If a room is well proportioned and the windows and doors cut into its walls are well placed, it is sound practice to paint the trim in a different color from the wall to give it emphasis. If the windows and doors are badly placed, the trim should be merged into the wall by painting it the same color as the wall.

It is a poor practice to apply putty to bare wood. A priming coat of paint applied to the wood first will make the putty adhere better, and it is not necessary for the paint to be thoroughly dry before the putty is applied. Painting over the putty after the job is done will help the filler to "stay put."

A New Exercise Routine



B. An exercise that puts most of the muscles of the body to work is the ideal figure-trimmer.

A. Practice makes perfect and this exercise done correctly slims the waistline and hips.

THE girls who settled down and led a sedentary life this past winter may have some pretty knitting, sewing, crocheting or quilting to show, but the chances are they also have a few unwanted bulges. Yes, sitting has a way of adding width to the hips, rolls around the middle and often plays havoc with one's fine posture. And now with Easter and spring at hand, bulges, rolls, bad posture and unattractive figures must go. The season of hiding unattractiveness under a large coat will soon be a thing of the past.

In addition to exercising, the wise, figure-conscious girl gives thought to her diet. Careful eating plays a two-fold purpose; it helps slim the body, goes far in clearing the complexion and adding sparkle to the eyes.

The easiest method of dieting is simply to cut down on the intake of food, and checking as taboo almost all fried, starchy and oversweet foods. During such dieting it is well to eat an abundance of fruits, vegetables and salads, drink plenty of water, and get more than the ordinary amount of sleep. But dieting alone will not remove bulges or rolls. And that is where exercise plays an important part and why it is essential to co-ordinate exercising with dieting. Dieting will only help reduce the weight, while exercising trims the body.

Practice With A Purpose

Exercise A.—One of the best general exercises for trimming the hips and



Then, standing with the feet from 28 to 32 inches apart, draw the body up to its full height, take a deep breath, and slowly twist at the waist as you bend the upper body forward and touch the left foot with the right hand. The left arm should be swung as far back and up as possible. Then bring the body to upright position, reverse the movement, this time touching the right foot with the left hand and swinging the right arm up and back. Repeat five times the first day. The chances are it will be impossible to touch the foot in the beginning. But continue to practise this movement until the muscles are limber enough to permit completion of this exercise. Increase the number by one each day until the movement is repeated ten times.

To Put Muscles To Work

Exercise B.—Then lie flat on your abdomen. Raise your head, take a deep breath and slowly push the upper body up with both hands braced on the floor. Balance the weight of the body with one hand as you raise the other arm out at the sides and up. Remember that practice makes perfection and a body unused to exercise will require time before it can be put through these exercises.

You'll soon graduate to the full body-raising movement shown in the accompanying photograph. When the muscles of the entire body act together, you will be carrying the entire weight of the body on the left foot and right arm. This same exercise should be reversed, balancing the entire weight on the left hand and right foot and both of



D. A general reducer for the entire body is this movement that calls upon so many muscles. When combined into one routine, these four exercises round out the day's program.

C. The two greatest offenders, out of proportion hips and thick waistline, respond quickly to this exercise.

waistline, and at the same time putting most of the body muscles to work, is the combination twisting and bending movement. Put on comfortable clothing that will permit complete freedom of motion.



[Photos posed by Anne Gwynne, Universal Motion Picture Star.]

Commonsense is the best guide for dieting and exercising for happier living

By LORETTA MILLER

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STANDARD TWO-EGG CAKE

1½ cups Ogilvie Flour	¾ cup sugar
3 teaspoons baking powder	2 eggs
½ teaspoon salt	¾ cup milk
½ cup butter	1 teaspoon Vanilla

Sift the Ogilvie Flour, measure, and sift again five or six times with the baking powder and the salt. Cream the butter and gradually add the sugar, beating well after each addition of sugar. Add eggs, well beaten. Add flour mixture and milk

alternately, always adding some flour first and last. Add flavouring. Bake 20 to 25 minutes in oven at 350°F. in greased layer tins which have been papered with waxed paper. Ice, if desired.

VARIATIONS

For SPICED CAKE add to flour, when sifting, 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ground allspice.

For PEANUT CAKE roll one-half cup salted peanuts very fine and sprinkle over batter just before putting cake in oven. For this cake use pan 8" x 12". This cake needs no icing.

For COCONUT CAKE sprinkle one cup coconut over batter just before it goes into oven. For this cake use pan 8" x 12". This cake also needs no icing.



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these movements should be repeated five times.

Must Be Taken Slowly

Exercise C.—Whether or not the two previous exercises are followed, this one is a "must" in every figure-trimming routine. Sit up with legs stretched straight out in front of the body. Very slowly lower the shoulders until they touch the floor. Then take a deep breath and, with hands pressed against the floor to help balance the body, bring the legs up until the toes point heavenward. Hold this position for a count of three, then bring the legs toward the face and grasp the ankles with both hands and draw them down as close to the body as possible. (This is a strenuous exercise when properly done and it should not be repeated more than three times at first. The number may be increased as the exerciser wishes.) Hold this position for a count of three, then release the grasp on the ankles and very slowly lower the legs until the heels touch the floor.

Exercise D.—Another splendid exercise designed to take inches off of the hips and waistline is shown in the fourth photograph. Lie flat on the floor with arms stretched out at the sides and legs straight down. Swing the left leg

up parallel with the body, then swing it to the right until the toes touch the floor. Return the leg to original position. (The pressure of the hands on the floor will help balance the body.) Then reverse the movement, swinging the right leg up parallel with the body, then to the left. Repeat five times the first day, gradually increasing the number to ten.

A complete exercise routine includes these four basic movements. When done with real action behind each movement, they will do an excellent job of ridding the body of bulges, bumps and unwanted curves or rolls.

When dieting and exercising are combined, results should be seen in from two to three weeks' time. If the reduction does not seem fast enough, it might be well to follow a more careful diet, at least for a week. At no time should one ever permit herself to be weakened by dieting. This defeats the entire purpose and tends to make one look tired and listless. But common sense eating should be a part of every girl's campaign. It makes for happier living because it gives one an alertness, it brightens the eyes and it helps make the complexion lovelier.

Weep . . . Weep Not . . .

By W. R. Wood

*It is the Day of Peace. And silence sinks
Upon a thousand seas and lands afar,
Where terror-laden bombs have shed their woe,
And lurid War has long held evil sway;
And peoples long inured to shivering fear
Can breathe again the quiet breath of peace.
And in the coming time men shall not die
As men, through all these weary years, have died
At cruel War's behest. And now, once more,
The peoples long debarred from wonted tasks
Shall turn rejoicing to the ways of peace . . .*

*Yet, in this hour of joy, on many a heart
The blinds are drawn, and 'mid the music's play
A silence and a stillness falls unsought;
And tears are falling soft, and quiet sobs
Break now and then. For, in our homes e'en now,
There are those thoughts, returning o'er the years,
See not alone the conflict of the time,
But one dear form—the lad who came not back
When all the others came—who is not seen
Where gallant ranks are marching here, tonight.
Comes yet the thought of him. His form, his smile,
His boyish voice, his well-remembered step,
Fills all the picture. "Why and why—oh, why?"*

*Weep on, dear heart, Weep out this little hour.
'Tis well to weep. The shadow time will pass,
Though for tonight your loyal teardrops fall.
Weep on, true heart—for it is well and right
That in this hour your tears express your love.
Beyond this hour there yet shall sound for you
A finer word, a word of higher worth:
"Weep not, beloved. Let the skies be clear.
The sun has risen. Lift your eyes and see.
Look farther—farther—past the earthly scene,
And sense the Otherwhere, where he abides.
And, as you gaze, receive the gracious thought
That Heaven on that dread night made no mistake,
But gave to him in very truth the best—
And so he passed to life and light and peace."*

*And with the coming of our Victory Day,
Be sure that they rejoice with eager thrill,
That the great task to which they gave their all
Is done—the costly boon they bought for us
Has come—in very deed and truth has come,
And War is banished from the world at last.
And, could you hear his voice, his word would be,
In boyish phrase: "Why should you weep for me?
For I'm all right—and all my love is yours.
Forget your tears—chins up—and carry on."*

*Let us be loyal to our gallant men.
And to their enterprise for all mankind,
And to the challenge of their warfare done;
Rejoicing in the joy they share with us,
And holding dear the peace they greatly bought,
Set forth into the New Time unaframed,
To win the Peace since they have won the War.*

—From THE EVANGEL, New York.

A Silver Anniversary

Attractive table favors for a special family occasion

By ETHEL C. KNIGHTS

PERHAPS you would like to know how we planned the table decorations for the celebration of a twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. The plans were simple but extremely effective and could be carried out under the most ordinary circumstances.

The guests were the immediate members of the family many of whom remembered their childhood days and their mother's reassurances on many occasions that she would get certain things for them "when her little ship came in." As children, each one literally believed her words and conjured up mental visions of a "little ship" sailing over the waters laden with many treasures. The "ship" motif, therefore, became the centre of the table decorations.

We made the toy ships, ourselves, one for each guest, and printed their names on the sails in silver letters. The bases of the boats were cut with a fret saw from the sides of an old apple-box, and were trimmed boat-shaped as illustrated in the pattern (Diagram I), each base being about $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide.

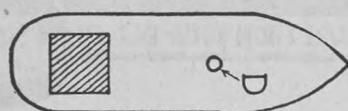


DIAGRAM I

We stained the bases pink by submerging them for a short time in diluted dye water. When thoroughly dry, we glued on the upper side, one-third of an inch from the stern, a $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch square of dark blue felt. We drilled a hole with a gimlet in the base $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the outer end to hold the mast which was three inches in length, and cut from the stick of an all-day sucker.

The sails from the boats were made from manila paper in different colors each one matching the color usually worn by the guest. The sails were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide at the bottom, and were shaped as the pattern indicates (Diagram II).

We next cut two slots in each sail, one near the top (a), and the other slightly over $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch from the bottom (b) through which to slip the mast. We also cut a perpendicular intersection between these slots (c) sufficiently wide to

show the mast on both sides. When this was done the mast was thrust through the slots and the pointed end was placed upright in the hole (d). At this stage the boats were complete.

We then covered the table with silver-starred paper, and down the middle, we placed end to end, sheets of indigo blue paper to represent the sea. On this blue paper we placed our little fleet with convoys in attendance. The illusionary effect was complete, the colored sails of our flotilla looking very attractive against the blue.

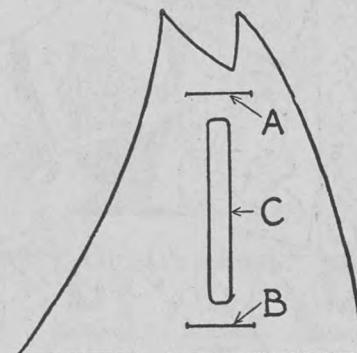


DIAGRAM II

Following this, to each slip we attached a silver cord, and on the end of the cord was the cargo which consisted of the donor's gift in twenty-five cent pieces to represent the 25th anniversary. The silver money was placed in silver bags tied with jauntily colored bows. The bags were arranged along the shore, that is, on the silver-starred paper tablecloth.

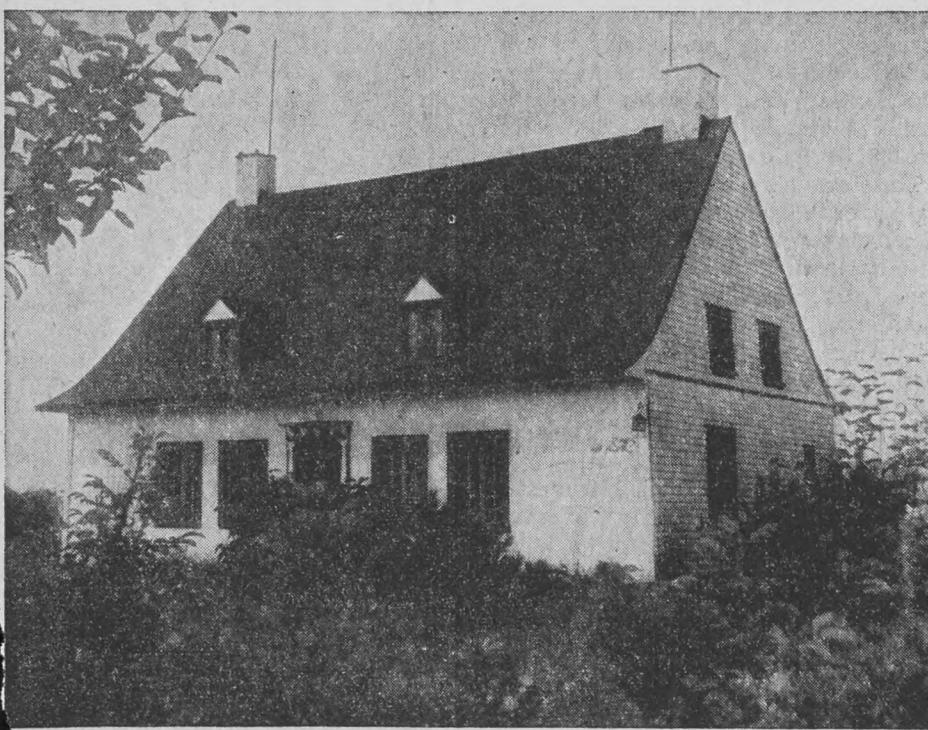
The "ship" motif was also carried out in an inscription arranged on the "blue" in silver dimes with the vessel side uppermost: "John and Mary"—"25th Anniversary." Place cards were used, and appropriate cards signified the good wishes of the guests.

A Bag Hobby

By HENRIETTA K. BUTLER

HAVE you a hobby? I wonder how many have tried a bag hobby.

I like a bag for everything. One for weekdays, one for Sundays, one for shopping, one for knitting, one for crocheting, another for library books and magazines. Pretty ones and plain ones, large ones and small ones. There are bags to match gloves and bags to match hats. Some are knitted and some are crocheted, either in twine, wool,



Typical French-Canadian house of the old type, which is the home of Miss Louise Murray at St. Pierre, Island of Orleans, Que. In its setting of lawns, flowers and shrubbery it wins the admiration of many visitors.

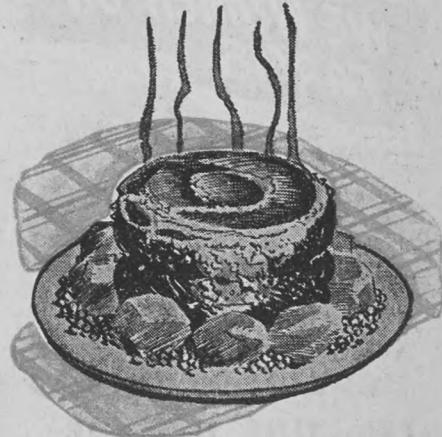
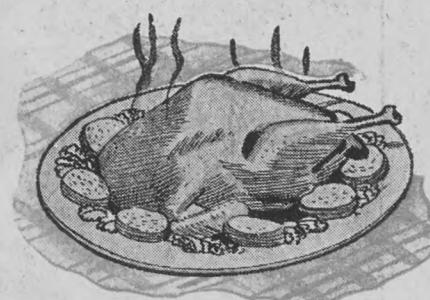
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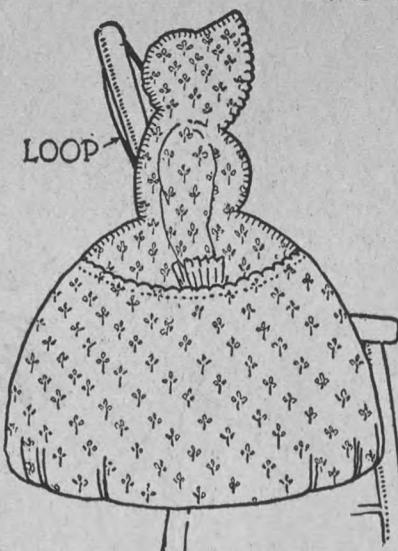


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straw, silk or cotton, and in endless smart patterns.

The larger ones are made out of pretty silk canvas or "what-have-you," and daintily embroidered. I am thinking of bags, in particular, which you can make yourself; they are more personal and reflect your own makeup and individuality.

Yes, it's fun to travel with different and pretty bags, and your friends will say, "What, another bag!"

For the stay-at-home bags, do you remember the old fashioned comb and brush holders? There are still some of them about, exquisitely embroidered on material almost impossible to be found now. Then there was the night dress envelope, perhaps to match, or embroidered with such words as, "Good-night, beloved!" Fashions change, the pyjama bags are now dainty creations of silk and lace. They will hardly be handed down to granddaughters.

Here is an idea for a wool bag, to hang, always handy, on the back of a chair. The top is the head and body, to the waist, of a lady with a bonnet on, cut out of cardboard and covered with a plain colored material both sides and stitched all around the edge. One side has a cardboard arm sewn on, with a ruffle at the cuff, and the other a large loop to hang on the chair. The skirt is a large pocket, open at little at the side, and made of gay cretonne. The body of my lady-bag is 24 inches from tip of hat to waist, 27 inches to lower edge.

Hot Iron Transfers



Design No. 749

Pretty flowers are embroidered on pillow cases or towels. Hot iron transfer pattern No. 749 contains eight motifs with complete instructions. Price 15 cents. The Country Guide Pattern Department, Winnipeg, Man.

Towel or Curtain Ends



Design No. X552

Odd lengths of left-over floss from the sewing basket may be used to embroider these designs on towels, curtains and place mats. Hot iron transfer pattern No. X552 contains 16 motifs with complete instructions. Price 15 cents. Pattern Department, The Country Guide, Winnipeg, Man.

Wallpaper News For Spring

WITH the coming of spring, the housewife's mind turns to thoughts of housecleaning and to freshening up the rooms of her house. When it comes to wall treatment, many women think of new wallpaper because it so completely changes the scene and adds so easily a bright decorative touch. But that often means that unless the woman is prepared to do the job herself, it has to wait until the men have time and that may run into summer months.

It is interesting, therefore, to note that a new wallpaper has appeared on the market, which is ready-pasted and easy for the amateur to hang. It is ready-trimmed so there is no difficulty in trimming edges and other details that go with getting the paper prepared for hanging. The new ready-pasted wallpaper comes in a wide range of attractive designs. It is washable, fade-proof and style tested. The rolls are carefully packed in sealed cardboard containers.

The stores carrying the ready-to-hang wallpaper also display a guide chart, which shows you how to select the right patterns and colors and tells you how much you need to buy according to room size.

There is another interesting development in this ready-pasted paper and that there are to be some types of it having special treatment with DDT insecticide—five per cent of active DDT, in the top coating. It is harmless to human beings but deadly to insects such as moths, ants, mosquitoes, silverfish and other insects coming in contact with it. It is guaranteed to be effective for a year. The treatment does not show, nor will it rub off. It is incorporated into the product itself.

So when this new product is available in this special form, you will be able to redecorate a clothes closet in a cedar closet wallpaper which is ready-pasted.

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STORES
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HABACURE... for Home Curing

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Do It Yourself

Any day now you'll be feeling that urge to change the furniture around. A little fresh paint here and there—perhaps a table touched up gaily with gleaming enamel.

Maybe you will be conserving your clothing and fabrics by making new clothes from old—chances are your needles and scissors will be busy. It's fun to sew—economical, too.

Do you find it difficult to keep your small fry playing happily indoors? Then make them some of these washable stuffed toys from old scraps of fabric or oilcloth.

You'll find a world of inspiration for Spring fever in your EATON'S Catalogue. There you will find paints, fabrics, patterns and a thousand and one new ideas for the thrifty-minded.

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SPRING FASHION NOTES

Continued from page 75

backs are in vogue. Pumps still lead in popularity, though there are a few straps and sandals in the fashion list. Platform soles are making a return this year and are flattering to the short woman. A pair of good black or brown shoes will be ideal for those with a limited budget, and will blend in well with the new spring clothes. Alligator and reptile skins are among the best wearing and the smartest. New and shining are the plastic shoes now on sale, and though they resemble patent leather, they resist cracking and moisture and keep the finish longer. Take care, however, not to drop acid or perfume or other strong solvents on them, or place them against a varnished surface, as that lovely shine might be harmed. Colored shoes in fabric, cloth or other materials are ideal for warmer days, and add a gay touch.

Something new has been added in purses this season. Plastic has come to fashion's aid, and there is an abundance of shiny purses that look like patent leather and are guaranteed not to crack. Lovely to look at and long wearing, they come in all sizes and shapes suitable to any wardrobe, and a perfect match for the plastic shoes. Of course, the same cautions must be taken in their care, and don't place your purse on a varnished table or chair. Leather purses are also in the limelight and many different sizes and colors are available. Large, medium or peewee size purses are all putting in an appearance, and there seems to be no set shape or style, so the choice is up to the individual. Fabric bags are also available and are much more reasonable in price. Purses should be purchased with a special eye to your shoes and other accessories.

GLoves are long, and colored to go with your ensemble; though the very newest is the short, shortie glove. If your dress has short sleeves, the long glove is elegant while the short one will go beautifully with suits. Fabric gloves are the most popular, and a clever sewer could make a pair of fabric gloves and cover a purse to match to go with a favorite ensemble. Fabric gloves are inexpensive and an easy way to bring your wardrobe up to date.

Costume jewelry is a really important aid to your wardrobe. With the new high neckline, chokers have come into a prominent place. They may be made of pearls, gold or silver beads, or any combination of these or other things. Make one for yourself and let your imagination be your guide. Collecting bracelets has become a fad, and a large number of these are worn over gloves or on the bare arm. Glamor pins are eye-catching on your suit and dress, and these may range from the large size, striking pin, to the more conservative, but nonetheless attractive clip. Pearls are still and always will be popular, and may be worn all the time or at any time. Earrings of different novelty shapes may be added to your jewelry box at very little expense, and a different pair for every dress or outfit is a good idea. The new high necklines lend themselves beautifully to the wearing of all sorts of necklaces, clips and pins.

Evening dresses have purposely been left to the last. They have been so recently added to the wardrobe that no striking styles have emerged. Soon there will be a larger demand, and there will be a new swing into evening fashions.

The smartest of clothes will lose their effect if the wearer neglects to use care in grooming. Neat, well brushed hair, and a clear, fresh skin are essential to the best appearance. Lots of sleep helps, too.

Answer to Puzzle (Page 83)

Bird, branch, bough, balloon, beads, bell, banana, belt, boots, bulb, bat, ball, bag, basket, buns, barn, buttons, beans, bottle, bench, box, buckle, breeches, blouse, band, bowl, book, bark.

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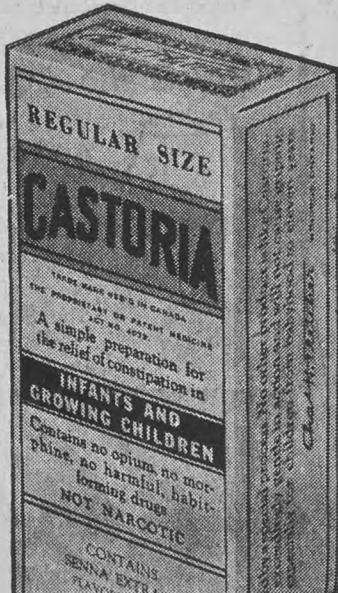
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Styles for April

No. 3017—Blouse stressing the very new turtle neck, also including the sweetheart cut. Cut in sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years. Size 16 requires 2 1/2 yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 2807—A smart wrapped-to-the-side effect skirt that may be cut from one yard of 54-inch fabric. Waist sizes 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 inches.

No. 3024—Slim new suit with smart bolero jacket. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 years, 42, 44, 46, and 48 inches bust. Size 36 requires for skirt and jacket 3 1/4 yards 39-inch fabric; for waist 1 1/2 yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 3057 — Two-piece suit

showing the smart wing sleeve. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years.

No. 2961—A short coat that will go with anything. Buttons from the neck. Cut in sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years.

No. 2977—Pretty bow neck blouse. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 inches bust.



Patterns
15 cents
each

No. 3047—Smart dress with the new keyhole neckline and side buttoning. Cut in sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 36, 38, and 40 inches bust. Size 16 requires 3 1/8 yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 3081—Easy-to-make blouse with a choice of a keyhole neckline or a bow. One size only is required and cut from 1 1/4 yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 3039—A set of tailored blouses for a little girl. Cut in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16 years. Size 6 requires 1 1/5 yards 35-inch fabric.

No. 3044—A two-piece suit with tucks at the shoulder to give that new look. Cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, and 46 inches bust. Size 36 requires 3 7/8 yards 39-inch fabric.

No. 3078—Sweet little button-down-the-back dress with pleats in the front. Cut in sizes 6 months 1, 2, and 3 years.

No. 3015—A pretty little jumper with a scalloped front. Cut in sizes 2, 4, 6, and 8 years. Size 4 requires 1 1/2 yards 35-inch fabric for jumper; 1 1/4 yards 35-inch fabric for blouse.

No. 3849—Little puffed sleeved blouse and a skirt that may be buttoned into a jumper. Ideal for an active little girl. Cut in sizes 2, 4, 6, and 8 years. Size 4 requires 1 yard 39-inch fabric for separate skirt, 7/8 yards for blouse with short sleeves.

Be sure to state correct size and number of pattern wanted.

Write address clearly.

Send 15 cents for Spring and Summer magazine which includes a complete sewing guide. Illustrated in color, presenting many pages of charming pattern designs for all ages and occasions.

Address orders to The Country Guide Patterns, Winnipeg.

The Country Boy and Girl

TIME for a treasure hunt! Yes, a very special April treasure hunt. Ready? Get your coat and let's start.

See those splashes of lilac among the dead grass and leaves in that open stretch, that's first on our list, the crocus or prairie anemone. Did you know that this furry little flower is the emblem of Manitoba? There in that swampy spot are the pussy willows we are looking for and listen—a bird call—that completes items two and three of our list. If your eyes are sharp you may see a bird flit past with a bit of grass or a twig for the nest he is building.

Remember that wasp's nest you were so curious about last summer but didn't dare to investigate? Now is a safe time to look it over carefully for the wasps all went down into the ground for the winter and will not come back to the old nest. Many layers of paper-like material form the walls of the nest for the wasps were our first paper makers. Inside the nest look for the "comb," a cluster of cells made only for the young for the wasps do not store honey. Notice where the small doorway to the nest is placed. Why?

The first sunshiny days of April may bring out the flies, a little sleepy yet and not ready to do much flying. Have you seen one? Now can you find a lady bird beetle and to complete our treasure hunt here is a more difficult one—have you seen a spider?

Perhaps many times you have been asked—What would you like to be when you grow up? We are going to talk about this important question again, but in the meantime will you think it over?

A Pair of Horned Owls.

Owl

By DOROTHY MORRISON

Rings of feathers 'round his eyes
Make an owl look very wise;
But when he hoots and hoots at night
I think he can't be very bright!

The Foolish Little Duck

By MARY E. GRANNAN

IT was nearing spring. Even if you had no calendar you could tell to look about you. The streams were rushing and bubbling. The birds were singing the new songs they had learned in their winter southland. The umbrella man was calling out "Umbrellas to mend... Umbrellas to mend." The sun was shining its shiniest and children had got out their roller skates.

A little duck swam in the bubbling streams, heard the new bird songs, ... saw the umbrella man, but paid no attention to any of these things. He had seen a pair of roller skates. He went home to his mother.

"Mother," he said, "I've seen the most wonderful thing in the world."

"Have you indeed?" smiled the mother duck.

"Yes, mother. And mother, you'd want me to have the most wonderful thing in the world, wouldn't you?" asked the little duck.

"Yes," said Mother Duck, "if this most wonderful thing was good for you. But you know, Little Duck, there are lots of wonderful things that are not good for us."

"Oh," smiled Little Duck . . . "Well these wonderful things are good for me."

"Now, there's more than one wonderful thing it would seem," said Mother Duck.

"Yes . . . there's two," said Little Duck. "And I want you to say I can have them . . . eh, will you say it . . . eh?

"No," said Mother Duck, "I won't. That is, at least not until I hear what this is all about. Now let's clear up the mystery. What did you see?"

"Roller skates," said Little Duck.

"Roller skates?" said Mother Duck.

"Yes . . . they're skates with little wheels on them and you put them on your feet. My fluted tail feathers but you can go fast! So may I have a pair mother? I have enough money in my own duckie-bank to get them, and all the children have them and you should see them fly, and . . ."

"I have seen them, Little Duck," said Mother Duck. "I know just what these roller skates are and I know how the children can fly on them. But you don't need roller skates to fly. You have wings. Children haven't."

"Yes, but . . ."

"And roller skates are not good for ducks," said Mother Duck. "And you may not have a pair."

"But Mother, nothing would happen to me," said Little Duck. "I might fall once in a while . . . but everybody does that and . . ."

"You are not getting roller skates. Supposing someone started to chase you when you were on roller skates? What could you do?"

"I'd . . . I'd fly," said the little duck. "You'd never get your feet off the ground," said Mother Duck. "Now run away and be sensible."

Little Duck ran away, but he could get his mind off those skates, and in his mother was getting the noon-lunch ready, he shook his money

from his bank and went to the store and bought the roller skates. They were much more fun than he ever dreamed. He rolled along the street quacking proudly and excitedly. But just as he turned the corner a brown dog saw him . . . "Wow wow wow," barked the dog and started after him biting at his tail feathers. Little Duck tried to fly out of reach, but as his mother had said, he could not get his feet off the ground. The duck pond was at the end of the street. He rolled toward it and in. He sank. The heavy skates took him to the bottom. He cried out as he went down the second time. The red hen who was digging on the shore saw and heard and called . . . "Mrs. Duck . . . Mrs. Duck . . . come . . . help. Little Duck is drowning."

Mrs. Duck reached him just in time. That night Little Duck looked at his empty bank, and felt his sore head and said, "Mother, will you tell me one thing? Why does a little duck like me think he knows more than his mother?"

"Oh, I guess it's because he's just young and foolish," smiled Mother Duck.

P.S.—He gave the roller skates to a little boy.

New Catch Ball Game

PLAYING catch is one of the very oldest pastimes we have. Centuries ago long before real outdoor games were invented, or even proper balls, boys and girls would amuse themselves by tossing pebbles to one another and trying to catch them. Nowadays, we have dozens of games which can be played with a ball, but for these, several players are required.

Here is a way to play "catch for two" so that you will miss none of the fun of a real game. All you need is one ball, one other player, and one backyard.

First you must mark out the playing ground or "court" as shown in the diagram. Make each catch pen about five yards long and three yards wide. Have the two pens about seven yards apart.

To start the game, the two players take up positions in opposite catch pens. The pitcher will try to throw the ball into the opposite pen so that it lands inside the pen without first touching the ground. The catcher, of course, will try to catch the ball to prevent it from falling into the pen he is guarding.

Let us suppose the player in pen A has first throw. B is the catcher. If the throw turns out to be a wild one and goes outside the pen, three things may happen:

(1) B may run out of his pen and catch the ball. If so, he scores two points.

(2) B may run out of his pen but fail to catch the ball. This is a "double error" and neither player scores.

(3) B may see the throw is wild and let it pass. If so, he scores one point for his good judgment.

If the throw turns out to be a good one, that is, one which would land on

the ground in B's pen unless caught, three things may happen:

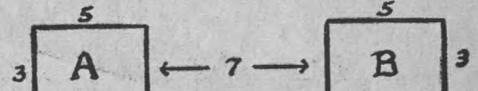
(1) B may catch the ball. If so, neither player scores.

(2) B may try to catch the ball but drops it. Then A scores one point.

(3) B may think the throw is a wild one and make no attempt to catch the ball. Then A scores two points.

From these rules you will see that catch ball trains you to use your head as well as to control your arm. Any time you make an error of judgment, or throw a wild ball, you put your opponent one point closer to winning the game.

The pitcher, of course, must throw the ball while standing somewhere in his own pen, and the ball is thrown from player to player as the game pro-



CATCH BALL PLAYING COURT:

throw. When a player has recovered a wild pitch from the opposite pen he returns to his own pen and makes his return throw as soon as he can.

The player who first scores 21 points is the winner of that round.—Walter King.

Meccano Magic

TWO years ago my boys were given a small meccano set, which they immediately wished to enlarge. Owing to wartime restrictions of metals that was impossible, so they began watching for things about the farm that could be used to enlarge it. They found the bolts on mendets, those gadgets used to mend leaky pots, had the same sized burr as their meccano. Then they discovered that those old window blind brackets could be bolted on to the meccano for cross braces. Number nine wire, cut in suitable lengths, served as axles. Four tops from aspirin bottles with holes punched in the centre made excellent meccano wheels.

The climax came when they were given two old alarm clocks. One was taken apart, and the pieces nearly doubled their assortment of brackets, bolts and braces. The other would go for some time when wound, so was kept for a motor. Two old cream separator rubber rings, served as belts. Those boys soon had their meccano toys hitched up to the clock power and running just as if they had used an electric motor.—Marjorie Stiles.

How Sharp Are Your Eyes



Here is a puzzle and a picture to color. If you look very carefully you should find at least twenty-eight things in this picture that begin with the letter "B". Color each object as you write it down

on your list. You will find fun in hunting for the full number of objects.—A.T. The answer will be found on page 86.

Continued from page 67



NATIONAL BARLEY CONTEST for Seed and Malting Quality Improvement

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Entries Close June 15. For entry forms and complete details see your Elevator Operator, Agricultural Representative or write direct to

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Provincial Chairman,
c/o Field Crop Com-
missioner, Edmonton.

Thirdly the interwar years saw the commencement of a scheme for improving soil fertility by the application of lime and basic slag on land which was shown by chemical analysis to be in need of treatment. This scheme accustomed farmers to the idea of soil analysis as a means of deciding manurial treatment. As the war progressed and fertilizers were rationed the need for exact information grew. Altogether 13 soil laboratories were in operation before the end of the war and whereas 5,000 tests would have been considered a big year's business in prewar days farmers were asking for 150,000 soil analyses a year when the push for food began.

Had you told any first class farmer or farm scientist in England in 1938 that his country stood on the verge of a tremendous expansion in food production he could have prophesied fairly accurately the developments that would take place. By that I mean that there have been few revolutionary innovations. Your prophet, familiar with the trends set forth in the foregoing, would have said that good farming is a well known art in England which had fallen on evil times through years of low prices caused by unrestricted foreign competition. He would have asserted that with better prices and government encouragement good farming on an intensified scale would come into its own again. He would not have foreseen, however, that government encouragement would develop into government enforcement.

At the commencement of the war Whitehall enacted legislation setting up County Agricultural Committees with very wide powers. The counties were divided into districts each with its subordinate committee and the districts into local subdivisions in each of which the district committee had an agent or advisor. Committee members were unpaid: their agents were full time salaried experts.

This machinery of supervision bore down on every individual farmer with all the weight of the central government. If the local agent issued a plow-up order to a farmer, he could appeal to the district and county committees. If the order was sustained it had the force of law. In the last analysis if a farmer was not farming his land in such a way as to further the war effort to the satisfaction of the county committees the owner could be evicted and someone else placed on that farm for the duration of the wartime legislation, which has now been extended to 1950.

In point of fact relatively few appeals were made and such as did get to committees usually arose because the order forced a tenant to break conditions of his lease. The confirmation of an order protected the leaseholder before the courts and he went on his way happily with the confirmed order in his pocket.

The decisions of the War Agricultural Committees were all the more acceptable because the majority of the men on them were the farmers recognized locally as the most competent in the area. It was the rule of the more efficient over the less efficient, cheerfully accepted in a desperate cause. Overhead flew the German planes as a grim reminder that it must be so.

What a paradise for the technical advisors corresponding to our district representatives! Farmers had to come to them for fertilizers, feed and many other rationed farm supplies. Information which could have been passed on as an instruction was hungrily asked for as advice, and as loyally obeyed as any order could have been. Only by the operation of an administrative machine combining professional learning, local ley experience and the wartime power

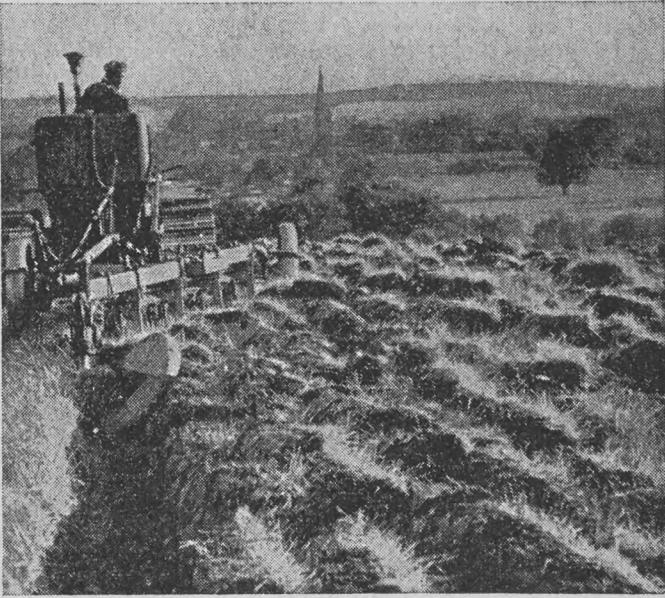
of government could farming have been intensified so quickly on so large a scale. Take for instance the story of wireworm control.

Beneath old pastures the wireworm flourishes. A great deal of the British plow-up effort of the last war was defeated by wireworms which severely damaged the ensuing grain crop. The older farmers of England with a lively recollection of the serious loss caused by this pest would have looked askance at a new campaign for plowing up grassland if they had to go all through this trouble again.

For several years before the war scientists at Cambridge and Manchester universities and elsewhere had been studying the wireworm. They worked out a satisfactory technique for taking soil samples and estimating the infestation per acre. A general survey of the grassland to be plowed was undertaken at the very commencement of the war. It disclosed that there was no part of England or Wales free from wireworm infestation. A classification was devised to show the degree; fewer than 300,000 worms per acre was regarded as low; from 300,000 to 600,000 moderate; from 600,000 to 1,000,000 as high; above that as very high. It was found that of the thousands of fields sampled 50 per cent were low, 35 per cent moderate, 12 per cent high, and five per cent very high.

With a low count, almost any crop would survive. On one field in every six the farmer could count on crop failure unless he took extraordinary precautions. The scientists noted a wide variation in the resistance of different crops to worm attack. Winter wheat and oats succumbed most easily. Barley was slightly more resistant. Peas and beans suffer relatively little. Flax is the worm fighter par excellence.

The investigators also discovered that after one year of cultivation half the worms disappeared and in the second year of cropping there was a further heavy drop in the worm population. If a farmer started a rotation with a resistant crop he could follow with more susceptible ones. Likewise it was dis-



Tractor and plow reducing the wasteland.

covered that certain forms of cultivation, heavier rates of seeding and heavier applications of fertilizer all helped to defeat this insect.

THIS body of information, quickly and widely spread, made a tremendous difference in the returns from grassland conversion in the two wars. In the war with the Kaiser, wireworm attack on newly plowed land was expected and its absence attributed to good fortune. Now it is anticipated, and if it succeeds it is accounted a failure in management.

Important practical results have been achieved in wartime Britain in the control of weeds by the use of organic chemical preparations. I.C.I. scientists in their research station at Jealott's Hill, Kent, produced synthetically in 1940 a compound which they named for short "methoxane,"—4-chloro-2-methyl phenoxyacetic acid, if you like it that way. Applied in water solution or dust at rates as low as eight ounces per acre it was found to be effective in killing such weeds as wild mustard, buttercup and a number

less important weeds without damaging grain in the least.

This discovery broke entirely new scientific ground. Methoxane is basically different from any of the weed killers which have been tried before. The old type was of two kinds. Sodium chlorate and sodium arsenate sterilize the ground so that nothing will grow. Other weed killers of the sulphuric acid type burn the foliage of broad-leaved plants, but only run off the leaves of grain or at most slightly burn the outer ones. Methoxane is an artificially manufactured hormone, a class of compound normally produced by some organ of the plant or animal body, infinitesimal amounts of which enter into the general circulation and profoundly affect the health of that body. The product of the thyroid gland in the human is probably the best known example.

The exact effect of methoxane on plants of the mustard family is not clearly understood but the smallest traces entering into the circulation of the young plant causes a major upset and the plant dies. It is non-poisonous to humans or animals; non-corrosive, non-flammable, and non-persistent, that is to say its effects do not linger in the soil and affect subsequent crops.

The commercial originators of this chemical are marketing it in a liquid form or combined with a carrier as a dust labelled "agroxone." It has come to stay in British agriculture. A farmer from Saffron Walden stated at a farm institute meeting which I attended that by this discovery the I.C.I. had done more for farmers than the whole British Ministry of Agriculture. We have farmers that talk like that too. Perhaps a better piece of evidence is this—that a Britain straining to expand its exports will have none of this product to ship abroad because her own farmers are clamoring for the whole of the potential 1946 output.

The chemists have also made singular advances in the production of a new range of insecticides. Turnips are an important crop in Britain. Its chief enemy is the flea beetle. Before the war it was kept in check by a derris root compound. Derris comes from Malaya and when the Japs seized that country in 1942 the chemists went furiously to work investigating the insecticidal virtue of thousands of compounds. Three of them were selected and one of them—benzene hexachloride—proved to be the most promising.

Chemically speaking there are four brothers by the name of benzene hexachloride. Three of the brothers are on reasonably good terms with the insect world but the fourth, if you can get him off by himself, is a destroyer the like of which farmers have never had for an ally. The job facing the chemists was to sort out the benzene brothers and present the proper one in working dress to the farmers of the world. The final product is a new compound named "Gammexane." So far as the turnip growers are concerned the Japs may have Malaya.

Gammexane promises to be useful for a wide variety of insects. House flies which alight on a surface dusted with it die within an hour. It is death to the red mite which infests poultry houses, to lice, fleas and cockroaches. Farmers are even dusting it on the ground and harrowing it in to assist in wireworm eradication. The limits of its usefulness are not yet known.

Unlike methoxane no satisfactory solution has yet been devised for applying gammexane as a spray. It is, however, mixed with an inert filler and sold as a commercial dust under the name of Agrocide No. 1. There are other members of the Agrocide family which have appeared in the last four years. Some of them have no place in a story of British agriculture as they are made

for export uses unknown in England. Agrocide No. 7, for instance, is intended to replace white arsenic in controlling grasshopper plagues, and the present outlet for it is Algeria and Morocco.

When you employ large numbers of men in devising refinements to kill other men you inevitably stumble upon a host of chemical finds of the above nature. Britain has a store of them awaiting settled conditions of peace-time trade and development. One of them which is bound to become known to Canadian market gardeners is peroxon which is expected to replace bordeaux mixture because of its devastating effect on blights and mildews on potatoes and tomatoes, as well as its importance to the foreign grape and hop growing industries.

ONE cannot complete a picture of wartime British agriculture without reference to its farm labor problem. Agriculture has had to compete with overworked industry for its share of workers, and there has never been enough to go round. For the farm there were three additional sources of labor; prisoners of war, the Women's Land Army, and seasonal casuals from town and village.

In most counties the local commandant of the Women's Land Army was made a member of the County Agricultural Committee and she assisted in the application of this labor force. In Essex, for instance, there were a thousand land girls. A portion of them were kept in a central pool and were moved from farm to farm according to local and seasonal needs. In the same county there was a fluctuating force of about 2,000 casuals of every degree of usefulness controlled centrally by the very able committee advisor B. H. Harvey.

The prisoner-of-war force has been the salvation of wartime agriculture. Altogether 53,000 Italians were assigned to agriculture. The Germans came later but were infinitely better workers. The prisoners for the most part lived in camps and were transported daily to and from the scenes of their labors. The pay was the munificent sum of three farthings a day. Recognized experts among them were given a bonus that brought their pay to three half-pence per day. Beneficent farmers frequently threw in a few cigarettes or a square meal. The meal was always a good investment from the donor's point of view because the camp diet was not enough to sustain a man doing heavy work. The prisoners who were not fed buckshee made it their first business to eke out the camp lunch box with a surreptitiously cooked rabbit stew, or occasionally fox stew, flavored with stolen potatoes.

The importance of the prisoner-of-war labor becomes apparent now that it is being withdrawn. In Buckinghamshire 40 per cent of the total labor force wore foreign uniforms. In Leicestershire there were only 6,000 farm laborers before the war. By October of last year there was 4,000 P.W.s employed. These are fairly typical counties.

All the Italians were out of Britain by February, 1946. The Germans are fast going. None will be retained beyond the 1946 harvest. British farmers are getting panicky about their future labor resources. It was hoped that demobilized soldiers would join the ranks of farm workers but the conquerors of Alamein and Normandy seem to have other ideas. It isn't the wage level that discourages so much as the conditions of living which so many of them are called upon to endure. Even with the savings brought about by mechanization it is conceivable that the shape of British farming in the generation to come will be determined by the availability of farm labor.

The wartime performance of agriculture in the United Kingdom strikes one as typically British in character. Apart from the advances in chemistry there was nothing spectacular. There was the unremitting application of information diligently accumulated in the years when the nation was supposed to be asleep. There was the flexible organization at which Englishmen are so adept. There was the same attitude of mind and confidence of achievement in the fields of Britain that blossomed forth on every battlefield from Rangoon to the Rhine.



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August 20, 1945 FRANK M. BARGE

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STRAIGHT FROM THE GRASS ROOTS



THE poem, *Weep . . . Weep Not*, which appears on page 78, is reprinted from *The Evangel*, a religious magazine published in New York. The author, W. R. Wood, was for several years secretary of the United Farmers of Manitoba. His son, Flight-Sergeant Keith R. Wood, lost his life in June, 1943, and is buried at Eindhoven, Holland. *Weep . . . Weep Not*, has been widely reprinted and commented upon.

* * *

THE Milo correspondent of the High River Times makes some predictions and here are a few of them: What a wonderful and horrid world this is going to be when the farmers take up flying.

Time was when the hired man could let the team rest behind a friendly knoll and have an afternoon nap but that will be a thing of the past. Grass seed and grasshopper poison will be scattered from the air and we suppose that manure will be spread the same way. Pedestrians have long

had occasion to dread the pigeons and sparrows but turn a farmer loose with a flying manure spreader and ye gods. Soon, too, freight will be hauled by air and the elevator man will simply open the top of the elevator and a thousand bushels of wheat will land in his lap. The population will change as it will be just an hour's hop for the city slicker to call each night on the milkmaid and the women of the house will spend the day in the city, pick up some fish and chips and have them on the table at six o'clock.

* * *

RENE L. JUBINVILLE, of Somerset, Man., assures this column that the smart horses are not all in Alberta. He has a couple of smart colts. They realized that there was a war on and a scarcity of goods of all kinds. A couple of winters ago he started feeding them oat sheaves. "They seemed to resent my cutting the bands," he writes, "so I left them on. A month later I inspected their mangers and lo! what did I find? In each manger a neatly made ball of binder twine, just as if it had come from the factory except that it had no tag. The colts had untied every binder knot, spliced one string to another and then wound the twine up into balls. They kept this up for six months and the following season, when I put up their feed again, I was able to use the same twine."

* * *

JIMMY SIMPKINS, The Guide's cartoonist, lives at Ottawa. We sent him down some jokes to illustrate, here a month or six weeks ago. One of the illustrations came back later than the others, and the alleged joke got into last month's *Grass Roots* without the picture. It was the one where the boy said the water only came half way up on the ducks. So-o-o, to even matters up we print the illustration without the joke. It should also be of assistance to anyone who couldn't see the joke.



IT had been some years since a letter reached *The Country Guide* addressed to Mr. Chipman. Then, on March 25 came this from Franz Kluger, an Austrian seed and nursery stock merchant:

"After the hard war occurrences and the establishment of World-Peace I forward to you my first greetings and express the hope, that you personally and also your business have surmounted the end of this war.

"As a result of the occupation of Austria I had to wind up my firm. The business in Wiener-Neustadt has been totally bombed and consequently I had to move to Vienna.

"I have to begin from the outset now, as you can imagine but nevertheless I will do everything to fulfil your requests. Will you please send me your list with regard to the sorts of forest tree seeds and quantity so I can send you my offers.

"I have interest for all Canadian tree seeds and I beg you to send me your special offers.

"Expecting with great interest your kind reply, I beg to be yours very faithfully,—F. Kluger."

* * *

DOWN in Missouri some young hunters claim that they treed a fox. Then followed an argument in the papers over whether a fox can climb a tree or can't he. Now it transpires that the



whole matter was settled many years ago. The biologists claimed that a fox couldn't climb a tree. Some hunters replied that they had seen a fox in a tree with the hounds on the ground. And so experience triumphed over science. The logicians tell us that it is hard to prove a negative, anyway.

The question still unsettled is, what kind of tree can a fox climb? We have seen sprawling Manitoba maples with low limbs jutting out at a low angle that would make a good path for a scared fox. Maybe it would for a dog, too, if he were scared, and as cute as a fox.

* * *

LAST month Miss McKee, who assists Miss Roe in the Home Department, said that synthetic fibres were hard to define. Well, let us see. The Du Ponts, who produce nylon, also produce this definition: "Nylon is a generic term for any long-chain synthetic, polymeric amide which has recurring amide groups as an integral part of the main polymer chain and which is capable of being formed into a filament in which the structural elements are oriented in the direction of the axis."

Simple, isn't it?

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April, 1946

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